

**POSTERS ★ ★ ★ ANDREW BRAYSHAW & MILLWALL**

# AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

# SOCCER

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# ERICSSON CUP CLUB ANALYSIS



# SATISFACTORY RESULT IN RIYADH

## FOR SOCCEROOS

### Editorial

The Ericsson Cup season is off and running. We know because it's our job to know. Where was the pre-season marketing of this product?

There are hundreds of radio stations around the country, not all play 24 hour music non-stop. Most have some kind of news broadcast on the hour even if they put over mostly music at other times.

The Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) in the main metropolitan areas have Radio National, the Parliamentary News Network as well as the local stations such as 3LO and 2BL. The audience reach is enormous.

They are mainly talk and need to fill their programmes with interviews and interesting stories. They have regular and extensive news broadcasts. They don't charge to appear.

ABC metropolitan stations on Saturdays produce a programme called, 'Grandstand'. It starts at 10am and runs until 6.30pm. Eight and half hours of sport. It is sent to participating stations in the bush.

On Saturday October 5 in the two hours to midday, basketball received two substantial slots, including an interview with a non-descript American import. Many other sports were covered but the World Game missed out.

There is no point in blaming the producer. They can't be expected to chase stories. All clubs in the Ericsson Cup have at least 18 players, a coaching staff of three or more and a youth development system. All of these people are of interest in one way or another. Most can speak well.

It is time we all woke up and realised that there is enormous potential for each club to fill the airwaves time and time again.

We have a great product but the general public must be told about it and why it is great. How else are potential spectators to be attracted to the games?

A newspaper advertisement for a game sits on a page, is read only by those buyers of the paper. In the case of ABSW the readers are died in the wool supporters. We must try to grab the people who don't normally go to games.

Take the screening of the recent AFL and ARL Grand Finals. Trumpeted from on high was the fact that the Aussie Rules version had a peak of 3.8 million viewers while Rugby League drew less than 2.5 million.

The population of Australia is 17 million, therefore there are more than 13 million who didn't watch either game — that is our potential audience.

Use the radio stations, they cost absolutely nothing to get onto. Every mention of your club, your players, your games, your ground is a free advertisement.

It is a wonderful way to let the population at large know about the Ericsson Cup and to make them so inquisitive that they want to go to a game.

There is no use mumbling that crowds just won't go to games — they must be attracted by hearing from the people directly involved.

Radio has expanded dramatically in recent years. There are dozens of community radio stations just waiting to hear from the clubs.

Give them what they want — people — your people. Clubs can only gain.

— Bob Brooks

**S**occeroo coach Eddie Thomson rated captain Paul Okon the world's best sweeper and stressed he wanted to retain his job after Australia's 0-0 draw with Saudi Arabia in Riyadh.

Thommo, who is being wooed by Japanese J-League club Sanfrecce Hiroshima, said he was very keen to remain Australia's coach and wants to sort out his situation as soon as possible.

Enthusied by the performance of his understrength team, Thomson said he could confidently see Australia qualifying for the 1998 World Cup finals provided it could get all its players together.

Australia shaded the first half and soaked up plenty of pressure in the second.

Thomson described the scoreless stalemate as "a great result" against a Saudi side containing six members of it's 1994 World Cup finals squad.

Sparked by Okon's vision, Australia passed and attacked fluently in the first half.

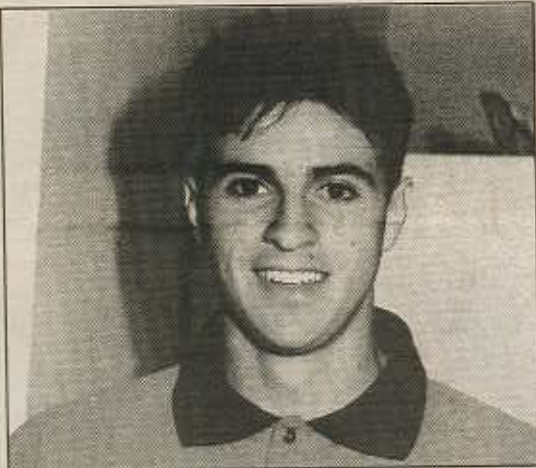
Fullback Harry Kewell and midfielder George Kulcar had shots saved and striker Paul Agostini headed just over while Saudi skipper Fuam Amin clipped a post just before the break.

Fatigued by the heat and humidity, Australia rarely threatened to score in the second half but defended stoutly to earn a draw.

Thomson was particularly happy with the first half performance and the form of Okon who is currently playing in midfield for Italian Serie A club Lazio.

"The first half was magnificent. We played really well, knocked the ball around and had a couple of good chances," Thomson said from Riyadh.

"It was very hot and the boys tired in the last 20 minutes but they did well enough to hang on for the



Paul Okon: Rated by Thomson as the best centre back in the world.

draw. "Okon, for me, is the best sweeper in the world. I wouldn't change him for anybody.

"Not only is he good on the ball and a good passer, he's a good tackler and made some great interceptions in the second half."

Thomson was also pleased with the form of two of his British based defenders, Leeds youngster Kewell and Glasgow Rangers player Craig Moore.

"Harry Kewell was brilliant for a guy who only turned 18 last month, he plays with so much maturity and experience," Thomson said.

"It's going to take a brave person to keep him out of the World Cup squad.

"I think Craig Moore probably played his best game for us, he was dominant in defence."

Thomson said he did not know when the situation involving Hiroshima and himself would be resolved.

"I don't have to meet with them but I will be contacting the agent in Japan and sorting this thing out as quickly as possible," Thomson said.

"I'm keen as ever to stay in charge (of Australia) whether

it be full time or part time.

"The more I am with the guys, the more I would like to continue in some capacity. We have worked hard for six years.

"We took a locally based team and did well in South Africa recently and we really took our second best foreign team here and we've done well.

"If we get everybody together, I see us qualifying for the World Cup."

Injuries and club commitments meant Thomson had to make do without eight overseas based stars including goalkeeper Mark Bosnich, striker Mark Viduka and midfielders Aurelio Vidmar, Robbie Slater and Ned Zelic.

Moore, striker Carl Veart and substitute Lucas Neill were all booked in the second half.

Thomson gave both Neill and Lorenz Kindtner their first cap and also brought on goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer in the second half.

**AUSTRALIA:** Kalac (Schwarzer): Muscat, Okon, Popovic, Moore, Kewell: Edwards (Neill), Kulcar: Veart, Agostino (Kindtner), Corica.

## TAPAI AND WADE IN AUSTRALIA'S SQUAD

**E**ddie Thomson has named an 18 man squad of Australia domiciled players for the two leg Oceania Nations Cup.

The first game is in Papeete against Tahiti on Saturday October 26 with the return leg at Bruce Stadium, in Canberra, the following Friday November 1.

The game at Bruce Stadium is part of a Festival of Soccer which includes the Canberra Cosmos versus Newcastle Breakers game brought forward from March 1, next year.

The overall winner of the two internationals will travel to Saudi Arabia in December 1997 as the Oceania representative in the newly created FIFA Confederations Cup. The champions of the other five Confederations plus Brazil, as current World Cup holders, and the host country make up the eight teams

competing.

The eighteen are:

Paul Wade, Canberra Cosmos; Alex Tobin, Milan Ivanovic, Jason Petkovic and Damian Mori all shown as Adelaide City; Goran Lozanovski and Ernie Tapai, Collingwood Warriors; Craig Foster, Marconi; Andrew Marth, Melbourne Knights; Jason Polak, Paul Trimboli, Warren Spink all South Melbourne; Tony Popovic, Zeljo Kalac, Sydney United; Milan Blagojevic, Kris Trajanovski, Alistair Edwards all UTS Olympic; Robbie Hooker, West Adelaide.

As it seems certain that Mori will be moving to the Bundesliga with Borussia Moechengladbach, then there will be an opening for another striker. Maybe Thomson will have a close look at Jason Bennett from the Topper Breakers.



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★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
U/15 October 18 — 5.30-7 pm  
U/16 October 18 — 7-8.30 pm

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# ERICSSON CUP

## MATCH REPORTS

### BREAKERS KNOCK WEST ADELAIDE FOR SIX

By DANE SKAFTE

An amazing second half display by Newcastle Breakers striker Jason Bennett, sent West Adelaide Sharks home with a 6-1 thrashing from a new look Newcastle side, last Friday night at Breakers Stadium, Birmingham Gardens.

In a quite remarkable match the Breakers came back after the Sharks opened the scoring 11 minutes into the second half courtesy of Jamie Perin who knocked the ball through the Newcastle wall and past keeper Liam Baker.

West Adelaide's handy lead was short lived just five minutes later Bennett levelled the scores after some good build up work by talented striker Troy Halpin.

Bennett notched up his second goal in the 67th minute after team mate Harry James eluded several

of the Sharks defenders to cross a ball for him to score from close range. Two minutes later Bennett completed his hat trick after a bad defensive error by Frank Tibaldi.

The Sharks defender could only watch as Bennett drove the ball into the net from the edge of the area. This brought the vocal Newcastle crowd to its feet.

The Breakers continued to demoralise the visitors after James passed the ball to Bennett who gave the West Adelaide keeper Michael Harkness little chance with a low shot inside the far post. Two more goals by Newcastle's Scott Thomas and Glenn Sprod in the 78 and 80 minute gave the Newcastle side their biggest win since 1993/94 when they beat

#### Newcastle Breakers:

Baker, Price, Sprod, Ironside, Lowe (James 46) (Thomas 76), Halpin, G Wilson (Moore 56), McManus, Bennett, M Wilson, Austin.

#### West Adelaide:

Harkness, Perin, Slager, Hooker, Alagich, Castro, Cardozo, Milosevic (Mezensof 86), Day (Cutillo 71), Tibaldi (Kokkinoplitis 69), Borghetto.

Yellow Cards: Newcastle: McManus (17), G Wilson (43)

West Adelaide: Castro (8)

Scorers: West Adelaide:

Perin (58)

Newcastle: Bennett (62,

67, 69, 72); Thomas (78);

Sprod (80).

Referee: C Diomis

Crowd: 4,581

POY: 3-Bennett; 2-Halpin;



Jason Bennett: Stunned visitors with four goals in 11 minutes.

Heidelberg 6-0.

A very delighted Breakers coach John Kosmina said after the match he didn't expect his side to score that many goals.

"I think they started to believe in themselves. In the first 45 minutes we struggled but once we levelled the scores we didn't take a backward step."

Kosmina wasn't getting too carried away with the win emphasising that there was a long way to go in the season.

West Adelaide coach Adrian Santrac had no answers for his side's defeat.

"We were leading with 35 minutes to go and we just fell apart. As a team we were very ordinary and we have a lot of work to do before next week's game." Santrac concluded.

### MT PRITCHARD FEDERATION SOCCER CLUB INVITES APPLICATIONS FROM YOUTH LEAGUE COACHES

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GLEN INGLE (President)

HOME: 9790 87284 MOBILE: 018 267 362

or post application to:

P.O. Box 651 Strathfield 2135

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U/13 and U/14

Tuesday 22nd Oct — 5.00 pm

Thursday 24 Oct — 5.00 pm

U/15 and U/16

Wednesday 23 Oct — 5.00 pm

Friday 25 Oct — 5.00 pm

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Enquiries to: GLEN INGLE

HOME: 9790 7284 MOBILE: (018) 267 362

### COSMOS ECLIPSED BY MARCONI

By GRAHAME COOKE

Marconi opened its Ericsson Cup campaign with a nail biting 3-2 win over Canberra Cosmos at Bruce Stadium on Saturday night.

A powerful header from Cosmos veteran striker Marko Perinovic five minutes from the end which flew past goalkeeper Bob Catlin set up a grand finale but the visitor hung on.

Marconi got the points it deserved, although captain Andy Harper admitted his side took its foot off the pedal which nearly proved costly.

"We let them get into the box and big Marko started throwing his weight around - then we had a contest on our hands," he said.

Marconi coach Manfred Schaefer said his team had punished Canberra for leaving gaps at the back.

"They certainly can't afford to give away the kind of goals they conceded tonight," he said.

Canberra took the lead after 12 minutes when Paul Dee crossed, Lachlan Armstrong pushed the ball goalwards and defender

#### Canberra Cosmos:

Giannasca, Dee, Mazis, Watson, Rogic, Wade, Kelly, Armstrong (Milin 69), Lemezina (Baxter 40), Perinovic, Koch.

#### Marconi Fairfield:

Catlin, Stanton, Bingley, Harper, Foster, Maloney, Ravanello (Cassidy 69), Holst (Souris 46), Longo, Babic, Zoric.

#### Yellow Cards: Cosmos:

Perinovic (51), Kelly (63), Armstrong (66), Watson (77). Marconi: Longo (16), Ravanello (64), Maloney (90).

Referee: G. Leverton

Crowd: 4100

POY: 3-Foster, 2-Babic, 1-Giannasca

Scorers: Cosmos: Kelly

(12), Perinovic (85)

Marconi: Zoric (14),

Foster (33), Babic (48)

Robbie Stanton made a hash of the clearance. He let the ball go straight into the path of the incoming Norman Kelly who scored from close range.

Marconi's reply was swift and effective. Vlado Zoric collected the ball near the edge of the penalty area and blazed home a 20 metre drive.

The visitors took the lead after 33 minutes. Cosmos goalkeeper Tony Giannasca intercepted but could not hold on to a cross from Harper and Craig Foster pounced on the loose ball.

Marconi went into the interval in full command and began the second half in the same fashion. Babic ran through a ragged defence to make the score 3-1.



Sean Babic: Gained his first goal for his new club.

### MARCONI v COLLINGWOOD



### MARCONI STADIUM THIS SATURDAY

KICK-OFF — 7.00 PM

YOUTH LEAGUE — 5.00 PM



SEE THE STARS UNDER THE STARS



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# ERICSSON CUP

By GREG BLAKE



## YOUR CLUB BY CLUB GUIDE PART TWO OF A TWO PART CLUBS COMPETING FOR THE

### WEST ADELAIDE SHARKS



**COACH:** Adrian Santrac  
**HOME:** Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, SA  
**LAST YEAR:** 7th  
**YEARS IN NSL:** 17 — 1977-1986, 1989/90, 1991/92-1996/97  
**HONOURS:** Champions — 1978  
Cup Runner up — 1981 and 1986  
Finalists — 1978, 1992/93 and 1995/96  
**GAMES RECORD:** Graham Honeyman (239)  
**GOALS RECORD:** Graham Honeyman (36)  
**95/96 TOP GUN:** Jim Tsekiniis (15)  
**95/96 TOP VOTES:** Jim Tsekiniis  
**REC GLS IN SEAS:** Jim Tsekiniis (15) in 1995/96  
**RECORD WIN:** 7-0 v Sunshine G. Cross (League) in 1984  
**RECORD DEFEAT:** 0-7 v Sydney City (League) in 1980 and v Wollongong City (League) in 1989/90



Robbie Hooker: Rugby competitor leading his club.

TABLE	Plyd	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
HOME RECORD:	214	93	40	81	302	278	226
AWAY RECORD:	214	49	51	113	222	363	149
LEAGUE TOTAL:	427	142	91	194	524	641	375
FINALS/TOP 4:	6	1	1	4	5	9	N/A
CUP GAMES:	36	12	7	17	49	34	N/A
TOT. NSL GAMES:	469	155	99	215	578	704	N/A

Finals or cup matches decided on penalties are shown as drawn games. Home and away points calculated on two points per win basis.

### NEWCASTLE BREAKERS



**COACH:** John Cosmina  
**HOME:** Breakers Stadium, Newcastle, NSW  
**LAST YEAR:** 12th  
**YEARS IN NSL:** 5 — 1991/92 to 1993/94 and 1996/97  
**HONOURS:** Cup Runner up — 1995/96  
**GAMES RECORD:** Ralph Maier (106)  
**GOALS RECORD:** Warren Spink (29)  
**95/96 TOP GUN:** Jason Bennett (7)  
**95/96 TOP VOTES:** Clayton Zane  
**REC GLS IN SEAS:** Warren Spink (16) in 1992/93  
**RECORD WIN:** 6-0 v Heidelberg (League) in 1993/94  
**RECORD DEFEAT:** 0-6 v Melbourne Knights (League) in 1991/92



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TABLE	Plyd	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
HOME RECORD	56	15	20	21	80	90	50
AWAY RECORD	55	11	9	35	51	102	31
LEAGUE TOTAL	111	26	29	56	131	192	81
FINALS/TOP 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
CUP GAME	10	3	3	4	14	16	N/A
TOT. NSL GAMES	121	29	32	60	134	208	N/A

Finals or cup matches decided on penalties are shown as drawn games. Home and away points calculated on two points per win basis.

\* All stats up to and including the 1995/96 season grand final. All statistical information is copyrighted and cannot be reproduced in whole or part in any form without the written consent of this newspaper.

### SYDNEY UNITED PUMAS



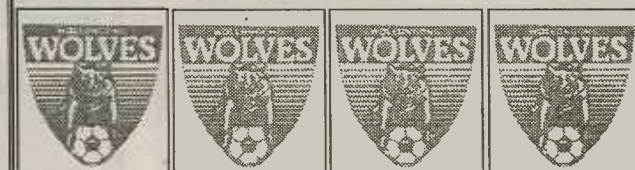
**COACH:** Branko Culina  
**HOME:** Sydney United Sports Centre, Sydney, NSW  
**LAST YEAR:** 4th  
**YEARS IN NSL:** 14 — 1984 to 1996/97  
**HONOURS:** Runners up — 1988  
Minor premiers (North Div) — 1986  
Cup winners — 1987  
Cup runners up — 1993/94  
Champions — 1984 and 1990/91  
Champions (South Div) — 1984  
Minor premiers — 1992/93  
Minor premiers (Sth Div) — 1984 and 1985  
Finalists — 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1993/94, 1994/95 and 1995/96  
**GAMES RECORD:** Manis Lamond (239)  
**GOALS RECORD:** Graham Arnold (67)  
**95/96 TOP GUN:** David Zdrilic (10)  
**95/96 TOP VOTES:** Tony Popovic  
**REC GLS IN SEAS:** Jim Patikas in '85 & Graham Arnold (16) in '86  
**RECORD WIN:** 7-0 v Newcastle Rosebud (League) in 1984  
**RECORD DEFEAT:** 1-7 v Sydney City (Cup) in 1980



TABLE	Plyd	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
HOME RECORD	168	86	40	42	255	183	212
AWAY RECORD	167	63	50	54	201	202	176
LEAGUE TOTAL	335	149	90	96	456	385	388
FINALS/TOP 4	16	6	3	7	16	20	N/A
CUP GAMES	34	12	6	16	39	40	N/A
TOT. NSL GAMES	385	167	99	119	511	455	N/A

Finals or cup matches decided on penalties are shown as drawn games. Home and away points calculated on two points per win basis.

### WOLLONGONG CITY WOLVES



**COACH:** Nick Theodorakopoulos  
**HOME:** Brandon Park, Wollongong, NSW  
**LAST YEAR:** 11th  
**YEARS IN NSL:** 16 — 1981 to 1986, 1988 to 1996/97  
**HONOURS:** Minor premiers — 1988  
Finalists — 1982, 1988, 1991/92 and 1992/93  
**GAMES RECORD:** Ray Vliestra (160)  
**GOALS RECORD:** Pat Brodnik (34)  
**95/96 TOP GUN:** Tony Perenich and Mario Jermen (9)  
**95/96 TOP VOTES:** Matt Horsley  
**REC GLS IN SEAS:** Phil O'Connor (18) in 1982  
**RECORD WIN:** 7-0 v West Adelaide (League) in 1989/90  
**RECORD DEFEAT:** 0-6 v Preston (League) in 1980, v Marconi (League) in 1989, v St George (League) in 1989/90 and v South Melbourne (League) in 1995/96



TABLE	Plyd	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
HOME RECORD	200	76	45	58	277	263	208
AWAY RECORD	201	47	51	103	198	334	145
LEAGUE TOTAL	401	123	107	171	475	598	353
FINALS/TOP 4	8	2	1	5	7	12	N/A
CUP GAMES	25	5	1	19	37	43	N/A
TOT. NSL GAMES	435	131	109	195	519	664	N/A

Finals or cup matches decided on penalties are shown as drawn games. Home and away points per win basis.





# ERICSSON CUP

By GREG BLAKE



## TO THE TEAMS FOR 1996/97 SERIES COVERING THE 14 ERICSSON CUP THIS SUMMER

### MARCONI FAIRFIELD



COACH:  
HOME:  
LAST YEAR:  
YEARS IN NSL:  
HONOURS:

Manfred Schaefer  
Marconi Stadium, Sydney, NSW  
2nd  
21 — 1977 to 1996/97  
Champions — 1979, 1988, 1989 and 1992/93  
Runners up — 1997, 1989/90 and 1995/96  
Runners up — (North Div) 1985  
Minor premiers — 1989, 1989/90 and 1995/96  
Cup winners — 1980  
Cup runners up — 1977 and 1991/92  
Top 4 Cup runner up — 1978  
Finalists — 1978, 1979, 1980, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1989/90, 1990/91, 1992/93, 1993/94 and 1995/96  
Tommy McCulloch (246)  
Mark Iankovic (95)  
Andy Harper (14)  
Matt Bingley  
Zlatko Nastevski (20) in 1989  
9-0 v Blacktown (League) in 1980  
0-6 v Melbourne Knights (League) in 1990/91



GAMES RECORD:  
GOALS RECORD:  
95/96 TOP GUN:  
95/96 TOP VOTES:  
REC GLS IN SEAS:  
RECORD WIN:  
RECORD DEFEAT:

TABLE	Plyd	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
HOME RECORD	226	142	65	59	504	295	349
AWAY RECORD	263	106	64	93	424	340	276
LEAGUE TOTAL	529	248	129	152	928	635	625
FINALS/TOP 4	37	16	7	14	67	67	N/A
CUP GAMES	52	26	7	19	84	64	N/A
TOT. NSL GAMES	618	290	143	185	1079	756	N/A

Finals or cup matches decided on penalties are shown as drawn games. Home and away points calculated on two points per win basis.

### PERTH GLORY



COACH:  
HOME:  
LAST YEAR:  
YEARS IN NSL:  
HONOURS:  
GAMES RECORD:  
GOALS RECORD:  
95/96 TOP GUN:  
95/96 TOP VOTES:  
REC GLS IN SEAS:  
RECORD WIN:  
RECORD DEFEAT:

Gary Marocchi  
Perth Oval, Perth, WA  
N/A  
1 — 1996/97  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A



Gary Marocchi: Glory skipper faces uphill battle

\*All stats up to and including the 1995/96 season grand final. All statistical information is copyrighted and cannot be reproduced in whole or part in any form without the written consent of this newspaper.

### BRISBANE STRIKERS



COACH:  
HOME:  
LAST YEAR:  
YEARS IN NSL:  
HONOURS:  
GAMES RECORD:  
GOALS RECORD:  
95/96 TOP GUN:  
95/96 TOP VOTES:  
REC GLS IN SEAS:  
RECORD WIN:  
RECORD DEFEAT:

Frank Farina  
Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane, Queensland  
6th  
6 — 1991/92 to 1996/97  
N/A  
Troy Cranney (100)  
Chris Slater (24)  
Frank Farina (20)  
Frank Farina  
Frank Farina (20) in 1995/96  
7-1 v Adelaide City (League) in 1995/96  
0-7 v Adelaide City (League) in 1995/96



Frank Farina: Top scorer last term, will his coaching interfere with this?

TABLE	Plyd	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
HOME RECORD	67	37	13	17	134	80	87
AWAY RECORD	58	11	18	39	44	111	40
LEAGUE TOTAL	135	48	31	56	179	191	127
FINALS/TOP 4	2	0	0	2	1	4	N/A
CUP GAMES	15	5	3	7	19	23	N/A
TOT. NSL GAMES	152	53	34	54	199	218	N/A

### A.C. UNITED SOCCER CLUB

for the 1997 1st Division NSW Youth League Season

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# Go for Glory

Dear Sir,  
Well here we go again the new season is about to begin and the league is looking bigger and better than ever. It's really got a national Aussie feel about it as our brother's Rugby and Aussie Rules start to get involved.

I'm sure the A.S.F. has tried to do what is best for the interest of the game as a whole which is what is important. We must be patient and stick together as we work through these obstacles. You're never going to please everyone you can only try. If we can compromise then I'm sure we can find the solutions which are necessary for soccer to prosper. It will take time but I believe we're headed in the right direction.

All that we need now is for Aussie sport fans to come and support Soccer they have nothing to fear, just as our multi-cultures live in harmony so can a country with multi-sports.

Australians love to see a contest no matter what the sport, especially when Australia is playing, the Olympic's proved that, the Aussie fighting spirit shines

through.

Let's build a strong national league so we can produce some fine champions, so that we can build a champion team to take on the world. Yes the World Cup will one day be ours but we'll need the support of all Aussie sports fans if we are to achieve this.

I know it might sound like a dream but never underestimate the great Aussie fighting spirit which has made many dreams come true.

I know we can do it. So what do you say Aussie Sports fans, join us as we take on the World!

I'd like to wish all the teams well in the up and coming season may the best team win especially the new team from the West — Perth Glory. Going on past performances teams from the West have done well no matter what the sport, so don't say I didn't warn you's..

Go Perth Glory  
Go Soccerroo's  
Go Aussie!

Paul Bottari,  
BALCATTA, W.A.

## SAYONARA EDDIE

Dear Sir,

It has been widely reported in the media that Australia's National coach Mr. Eddie Thomson has been approached by Japanese J-League club Hiroshima for a coaching position.

If this is the case I hope that Mr. Thomson makes his decision on whether or not to accept their offer as soon as possible.

As the Soccerroos are about to embark upon their campaign to qualify for 'France 98', the Soccer

community in Australia deserves to have a committed coach.

It is generally accepted that Mr. Thomson has been good for Australian Soccer. But, it is also true that Australian Soccer has been good to Mr. Thomson.

for the game to progress in Australia it needs people of commitment, honesty and loyalty.

Otherwise quickly pack your bags and Sayonara Eddie!

George Fragos,  
CARSELDINE QLD.



"The good news is — you won the raffle. A new pair of soccer boots!"

## Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



Short letters of about 400 words will be given preference in this column.

The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper



## Lofty logic but no theories

Dear Sir,

In the 793th issue of ABSW dated 2 October, Mr Paul Williams takes upon himself to write on behalf of ALL soccer supporters. What arrogance!

First he gives a short history of Australia, its origin and the origin of the species inhabiting this land. Very good. Then he gives us an example how Argentinians and Italians so broadmindedly accepted club names like "River Plate" "Boca Juniors", "AC Milan" and others.

There are however, a few little differences that escaped Mr Williams' attention. Those two countries are soccer mad and there was no competition with deeply ingrained other football codes and football cultures. These clubs despite their slightly foreign names represented their localities.

Those clubs were not affiliated to any single ethnic group. Supporters of those clubs did not

attend matches carrying foreign flags, selling foreign memorabilia. These clubs are not used as mediums of ethnic politics, as tools to boost their ethnic egos. Mr Williams' letter was full of lofty theories but totally devoid of logic.

I agree with him on one thing; "Olympic" is not an ethnic name and it's not offensive. Take for instance "Olimpique Marseille", which perfectly acceptable to the French.

S.A. and Mr Hill are doing a great job. I criticise them for only one thing; their measures are not drastic enough.

They are trying to solve the problems gradually.

They will eventually achieve results but it will take a long time and there will always be squabbles. Take my advice Mr Hill, start from scratch. It will be a bit painful at first but it will be worth it in the long term.

Maurice Hawling,  
OATLEY NSW.

## PAY TV NOT AFFORDABLE

Dear Sir,

With the Soccer Season about to begin, I can't for the life of me understand why Soccer Australia gave the TV right's of the Ericsson Cup to Optus Vision pay TV without provision for a couple of games each week to go free to air.

With only 5% of household's having pay TV and Optus Vision even less than that, it doesn't make sense to hide your product.

David Hill and company are just as mad as the Rugby Union mob who gave their product solely to Foxtel.

The only ones with any brains are the Aussie Rules mob in Melbourne who have there game with Optus Vision as well, but also have plenty of free to air games to expand their code all around the country.

The Rugby League mob play their games in court.

The season just finished was the most successful ever by the A.F.L. I mean if you are worried about ground attendances, you show a one hour time delayed game, or better still in each capital city a different game to what is being played live in that city.

After all not everybody can afford pay TV or travel interstate to follow their team.

Dominic Scullino,  
HELENSVALE, QLD.

## Hidden agenda?

Dear Sir,

The SBS program "Soccer bloody Soccer" graphically highlighted the futility of the policy of enforced de ethnication in Oz soccer. It clearly showed that this will only alienate the only hard core support the A League clubs have in the very 'faint' hope that mainstream Oz will suddenly embrace the A League. Sadly these 'fairweather' supporters demand nothing less than champagne soccer a la Man Utd AC Milan etc every week in perfect conditions at bargain prices. Something that is impossible to provide.

On another point the ageless Sir Arthur George is now chairing a taskforce examining certain aspects of the A League. For a good twenty years Sir Arthur presided over the ASF as chairman. In that time successes were few and far between but failures were frequent if not normal procedure. Even if we are generous and conclude Sir Arthur was more a victim of bad luck than bad judgement its heard to believe this taskforce will come out with any

recommendations that will enhance the A League.

On the other hand if this taskforces hidden agenda is to create a formula where unwanted ethnic clubs like possibly the Croatian clubs can be eliminated from the A League I hope the brains trust will think long and hard before they act. The Croatian A League clubs and their feeder clubs Nth Geelong and Canberra Deakin are unmatched nurseries in Australia for quality local Australian born players.

The fact is that Oz soccer needs the ongoing support of the Australian Croatian community indefinitely. Any plan to marginalise them will only result in many young talented Australian born juniors of Croatian background losing interest in soccer and going over to other sports such as AFL, Rugby League etc who will welcome them with open arms. Who knows perhaps this is the real intention?

R. Melor,  
BONDI, NSW.

## CONCENTRATE ON QUALITY FOOTBALL

Dear Sir,

I would probably be correct to say that perhaps two thirds of all letters to the Editor are related to 'ethnic' based issues.

It sure makes for interesting reading but why don't we concentrate on other issues as well.

I agree with one reader's letter saying that to be a 'true blue Aussie' you would have to be a full-blooded Aborigine.

Just to have an Anglo-Saxon name would not qualify you to be 'fair-dinkum Aussie' as you are also originally imported.

Well anyone born here or who has the Australian nationality is allowed to be called Australian.

Are they not?

Well then, why make so much fuss about what is ethnic and what is not. I am starting to think that what is ethnic is second-rate or embarrassing.

Why do we then fill up a stadium when a bunch of Italians (AC Milan) come here?

Well the answer, to my mind, is back where I started.

Other issues... That one issue is 'quality football'. No less.

If we concentrate on quality football and we are seeing it on our fields, who really cares what names are attached to it?

Who cared that Ned Zelic is of Croatian background. Not even the commercial stations, as he appeared on numerous shows following his success in the Olympic qualifiers.

Come on let's start being more broad-minded.

Let's understand that even if Italian-Aussie or Croatian-Aussie etc. players still have some allegiance towards their

original country and culture that that is also O.K. and understandable. To me it is lack of understanding and being narrow in mind that we begrudge them this allegiance.

A few years ago Hans Klippus a regular dutch journalist visitor to this country wrote an article in the Dutch NRC newspaper with the heading: "Ethnic Feuding stops progress in Australian soccer". That is exactly what is happening here. Nothing is ever said much about the basics of the game itself.

How do we improve quality of play and how can we beat the top countries? We have had an era of the one striker system under E.T.

We never scored goals and the lone striker never had much support up front.

Maybe we will get a more attacking minded coach.

So what do other readers write e.g. in Holland I regularly get "Vodbal International" and surprisingly most of the letters are pertaining to the Dutch national team, that is, its players and its coaches.

Most of the readers show their displeasure towards the team members, their lack of motivation playing for Holland, their monetary awards and why some of the lesser clubs never have representatives in the national team and criticise the national coaches' team tactics.

I quote Louis van Gaal (AJAX) now, "Just winning is not enough, it is the style or the way it is done as we owe it to the paying public." how right he is. Let's discuss more on how we can improve the quality of football here. We will get the crowds in then.

G. Van Duuren,  
UWS, WESTMEAD

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# ERICSSON CUP

## MATCH REPORTS

### FALCONS KEEP SOUTH SCORELESS

Ericsson Cup giant, South Melbourne was held to a 0-0 draw by Gippsland Falcons in the opening game of the 1996-97 campaign.

South, featuring three big name new signings, had been expected to beat a Falcons side put together on a shoe-string budget by former South coach Frank Arok.

But after a bright opening in which Warren Spink almost scored in the third minute, Falcons kept a tight hold on South's attack with Nick Palamaras, playing in his first NSL game featuring prominently at sweeper with a number of timely tackles.

Alex Duric, picked up by the Falcons after being dumped by South last season, had a shot on the turn go narrowly over the bar in the 43rd minute.

Then Steve Mangos, another South reject, hit a free kick from outside the box which forced keeper Mike Petkovic into a good save as he tipped the ball over the bar.

But Gippsland's best

chance came in the 49th minute when veteran Eddie Krncevic got on the end of a cross from the right to head goalwards from inside the goal area only to see the ball cleared off the line by Fausto De Amicis.

De Amicis, who won two successive championships with Melbourne Knights, was a shock signing by South on the eve of the NSL kick-off but he fitted into the new side immediately and was one of South's best performers.

The Lakers recovered to resume control of the game as the second half wore on but Falcons' keeper Jim Kourtis made two good saves off Vaughan Coveny in the 53rd and 56th minute.

The last five minutes of the contest turned into a frantic affair with both sides going all out in search of a late winner.

Falcons came closest with Carlo Villani heading narrowly wide after connecting with a free kick by Hugo Gimenez two minutes into stoppage time.

#### Gippsland Falcons:

Kourtis, Marcina, Stergiopoulos, Mangos, Palamaras, Gimenez, Foy, Krncevic (Villani 73), Duric (Mitroulas 73), Bell, Hastie.

#### South Melbourne:

Petkovic, Anthopoulos (Panopoulos 85), Orlic, Kuzmanovic, Polak, Coveny, Trimboli, Spink, Iosifidis, Clarkson, De Amicis.

#### Yellow Cards:

Falcons: Krncevic (7), Hastie (15), Palamaras (80)

Lakers: Clarkson (9), Polak (35), Anthopoulos (41)

#### Scorers:

NIL

#### Referee:

E Brazzale

#### Crowd:

3,235

#### POY:

3-Nick Palamaras, 2-Fausto De Amicis, 1-Jim Kourtis

Krncevic, making an

impressive return to

Australian soccer after 14

years playing in Europe,

marred his copybook by

getting one of the yellow

cards for a crunching tackle

on South's Con Anthopoulos.



Fausto de Amicis: Cleared a goal bound shot off line.

His was one of five bookings for the match. The fullback needed treatment and resumed temporarily but had to be

replaced by Steve Panopoulos. POY: 3-Palamaras, 2-De Amicis, 1-Kourtis.

## WARRIORS DEMOLISH PREMIERS

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

Collingwood Warriors opened its Ericsson Cup campaign with a dramatic 3-0 win over the past two years champions, Melbourne Knights.

Kimon Taliadoros proved the hero for the Warriors, grabbing two goals in the second half after the incident which changed the game.

Knights defender Zoran Markovski, who had been booked in the 39th minute, remonstrated with Assistant Referee, Andrew Stacey after he had flagged for offside a 'goal' by Damian Vojtek.

The Knights looked good up until that stage, threatening to equalise on a number of occasions and thought they did when Vojtek helped David Cervinski's shot into the net.

Ice Kutlesovski also had a goal disallowed two minutes before half time, also for offside.

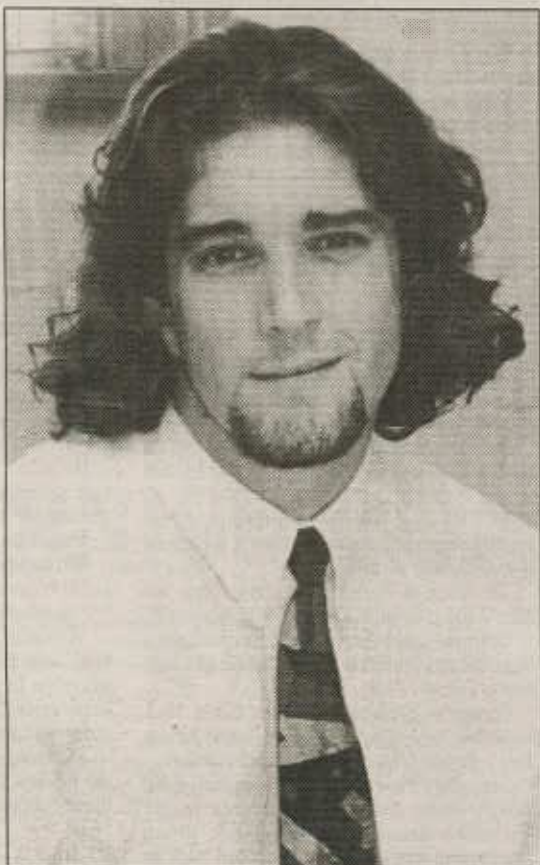
Both coaches agreed after the game that Markovski's dismissal altered the game in favour of the Warriors with the Knights looking certain to level the score.

Con Boutsianis got his second important goal in as many weeks when he nodded in Andy Vlahos' flick on from a Goran Lozanovski corner in the 5th minute.

Many of the official 10,200 fans wouldn't have seen the Warriors dream start.

The game was delayed by 25 minutes to let in all the people, but it was estimated that an extra 1,000 got in for free when gates were opened to let in the spectators outside the ground.

The Knights came more



Kimon Taliadoros: Notched a pair for new boys Collingwood.

into the game after their early shock and deserved an equaliser before Markovski was given his marching orders.

Just two minutes after the send off, the Knights defence was badly exposed for Collingwood's second goal.

Ernie Tapai found Vlahos alone in the centre who then passed to Taliadoros in acres

of space for an easy shot into the corner.

Four minutes later the Warriors skipper doubled his tally with a neat shot into Wilson Knezevic's right hand corner.

Because of the late kick off, the final ten minutes were played in what was virtual darkness.

Knights coach Ian Dobson,

**Warriors:** Juric, Fak, Jolevski, Scott, Cerrachio, Talladira, Vlahos, Taliadoros, Tapai, Lozanovski (Karapatsos 73), Boutsianis (MacNicol 73).  
**Knights:** Knezevic, D. Cervinski, Z. Markovski, Marth, Silic, Lapsansky (Dean 75), J. Markovski (Trupkovic 75), Kutlesovski, Vojtek, T. Pondeljic, Banini.  
**Scorers:** Boutsianis (5), Taliadoros (68, 72).  
**Yellow Cards:** Collingwood: Taliadoros (37), Knights: Z. Markovski (39), Silic (64).

clearly unhappy with the send off, said Markovski would be discipline within the club.

"I will not accept that from Zoran Markovski."

Dobson was pleased with some patches from his depleted side particularly after the Warriors grabbed the lead.

"We played some very good football in between their goal and the sending off and at that stage I expected to get something out of the game."

Despite their start to life in the big time, Collingwood coach Zoran Matic admits that there are still a few wrinkles to iron out of his emerging team.

"It showed me our shortcomings, in way of fitness and other aspects and we must regulate them as soon as possible."

"We've got some problems there for sure."

Matic was elated with the huge crowd.

"That made my day seeing that many people come out, let's hope they will come back again and again."

**Red Cards:** Knights: Z. Markovski (66)  
**Referee:** G. Connolly  
**POY:** 3-Taliadoros - Collingwood, 2-Marth - Knights, 1-Banini - Knights.  
**Crowd:** 10,200

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# AROUND THE CLUBS



## KNIGHTS LOSE JURIC

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

Last season it was Mark Viduka, Steve Horvat and Kresimir Marusic who all left Melbourne Knights before the start of the campaign. With the Ericsson Cup already under way, the Knights are facing a far greater exodus of playing personnel.

Olyroo goalkeeper Frank Juric is the latest to depart Somers Street, to Collingwood Warriors after failing to agree on terms with the Knights.

Fellow Atlanta '96 members Joe Spiteri and Danny Tiatto look sure to try their hand at playing professionally in Europe.

Spiteri, a player who came in for much criticism last season for taking off to play for the national team, is trialling with Belgian club Cercle Bruges.

Another player who has been trying to gain a European contract is Tiatto and he is also having trials but with Swiss club Basle.

Then there is the mystery surrounding talented young sweeper Joe Simunic.

Simunic left Australia about three weeks ago on holidays to try and sort out some personal problems.

Knights president Angie Citera was a little miffed when Simunic had dropped out of the Young Socceroos, but he should return to Australia this week.



Danny Tiatto: Left the Knights for a professional contract in Switzerland.

However something positive is the return from Singapore of midfielder Mark Silic.

Ivan Duzel is going to be playing again for the Knights this season after spending five years in Germany.

Utility Ransford Banini has been purchased from Thomastown Zebras along with the signings of North Geelong Warriors trio Ante Deak, Mijo Trupkovic and promising goalkeeper Joey Didulica.

The ground improvements at Somers Street are coming along well according to president Angie Citera.

"The Grandstand is ready for the seating to go in, we have finished the corporate boxes and just giving the ground a general facelift.

"Peter Russell was down here last week and was very impressed."

Danny Tiatto seems sure to sign with Swiss first division club Basle.

President Angie Citera said on Thursday "I spoke to his father last night and he told me that everything went well.

"Danny passed the medical and was supposed to have signed the contract on Wednesday night."

## LAKERS STEAL IOSOFIDIS

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

The Lakers have signed Heidelberg United player Steve Iosofidis from under the nose of Collingwood Warriors.

Iosofidis, who took part in some Johnnie Walker Cup games for the Warriors defected to South Melbourne.

He joins other new signings Robert Liparoti from Bulleen Lions and former Gippsland Falcons duo Warren Spink and David Clarkson.

Jason Polak also returns to the club after one season with Brisbane Strikers.

South Melbourne attempted to have its first round match away to Gippsland Falcons postponed due to the loss of four players to the Young Socceroos but was unsuccessful.

Daniel Allsopp, Michael Curcija, Con Blatis and Bill Damianos are all involved in the tour of South America.

The South Melbourne social club at Bob Jane Stadium has undergone some extensive renovations during the close season. With Pay-TV installed in an atmosphere of a sports bar and Poker machines to be put in shortly, the Lakers are expecting it to be a huge success.

Rounds 13 and 14 are dates to be pencilled into the diary for every Melbourne soccer supporter.

South Melbourne host Collingwood Warriors on the 5th of January next year and the next week the fixture is reversed.

The revival of Australian soccer's most passionate rivalry is certain to be a highlight of the season.

Angie Postecoglou has appointed two former team mates as his support staff.

Steve Blair, the South Melbourne games record holder rejoins the Lakers after retiring from soccer at National league level although

he did continue playing in the Victorian State League even until this season with First Division Moorabbin City.

After success with coaching Clarinda (now Kingston City), Carl Halford has taken the job of assistant coach.

Maxim Chetlov, the Russian who came out to Collingwood but then switched to the Lakers after not being signed by the Warriors, has also failed to land a contract at Bob Jane Stadium.

Chetlov, who was a regular with Russian first division side Torpedo Moscow was only in Australia on a tourist visa.

Watch this space for some news of a link up between the Lakers and an AFL team.



Dave Clarkson: Moved from Country Gippsland Falcons to the big city

## COLLINGWOOD SIGN QUALITY

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

The Warriors have captured Olyroo and Socceroo goalkeeper Frank Juric from Melbourne Knights.

Juric was snapped up after he and the Knights couldn't agree on terms the Knights were offering.

The signing presents a headache for coach Zoran Matic with Dean Anastasiadis also on the club's books.

Collingwood were brought down to earth very quickly by coach Matic after their Johnnie Walker Cup success over Marconi Fairfield.

Matic told the players that the real stuff begins now and not to get too carried away with it all.

The AFL side of Collingwood was ecstatic with the Warriors triumph in the Johnnie Walker Cup says club Development Officer Angelo Koutos.

"They were happier about it than we were I think."

"We took the trophy down to their social club for a few days and they were delighted we won it."

Koutos also said that the Warriors administration had a mood of satisfaction after the win.

"After all that's gone on recently with the trouble with the AFL, to have won the cup was very satisfying after a lot of hard

work."

Ernie Tapai has been cleared to play with the Warriors.

Tapai had crossed from Gippsland Falcons to Third Division Ringwood City during the winter and according to Victorian Soccer Federation rules, he wouldn't be allowed to play with Collingwood until after December 1.

The Warriors were ready to exploit a loophole that would allow him to be transferred to a New Zealand club and back again the next day. But after a VSF board meeting they reversed the decision and allowed Tapai to take part in the first round.

Collingwood Development Officer, Angelo Koutos doesn't expect the AFL club's supporters to come in their droves to watch their soccer team overnight.

"It will be a very slow process, educating them about our game and then hopefully over the next twelve months, we will have them on our side."

"Whether we get 100, 200 or 500 doesn't matter because that's 500 more supporters than we would have had before."

"But we need to make them feel welcome. We want Victoria Park to be a place where everyone will be welcome without ethnic chants."

☆☆☆



Frank Juric: Another quality recruit for Collingwood.

## FALCONS DEBTS MOUNT

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

The Falcons Board announced to their members at their annual meeting that the club was \$900,000 in debt.

President Fred Di Sipio blamed the debt on paying out huge salaries to their players last season.

Gippsland have been forced to recruit heavily in the off season following a clearout over the winter months.

The losses of Warren Spink, Ernie Tapai and John Waddell are probably going to hurt the most.

But new coach Frank Arok has brought a huge chunk of the Port Melbourne Sharks with him to Falcons Park.

Former Falcons player Manny Gotis, Nick Palamaras, Alex Duric, Will Hastie and former Joey's skipper Clayton Bell have all switched.

Legendary New Zealand international, Billy Wright, who finished top scorer in the Victorian Second Division with South Dandenong has also been seconded back to play as sweeper.

Another Kiwi, Mark Foy has also been signed by the club. Foy, a striker, was captain of New Zealand's Olympic team in last year's qualifying series in Adelaide.

Tony Sekulic will be another new face to Ericsson Cup followers. Sekulic, a defender, was brought in from NSW Super League club Rockdale Ilinden.

But the biggest recruit of all will be Eddie Krncevic. Krncevic, something of a pioneer in Australian soccer, had hoped for a job coaching after returning from Europe where he last played with Belgian club Charleroi, but no

offers came up.

Krncevic's experience will be invaluable in what is a very inexperienced side.

Another player from the Olympic qualifying campaign, the Fijian Esala Masi, has yet to return from Suva.

He hasn't been given a medical clearance after suffering a cracked bone in his leg whilst playing in Fiji.

His cousin, Manoa, has returned to the club.

Gippsland Administration Manager Rolf Lamb believes that the Falcons will surprise a few people this season.

"Everybody has written us off already but I think with Frank Arok in charge and with the discipline he has instilled we will not be easy beats, certainly not super stars but able to hold our own" Lamb said.

The change of name could be the best thing the Falcons have ever done according to Lamb.

"It has already improved our membership dramatically not to mention our sponsorship."

"There has always been something of a rivalry between Morwell, Moe and Traralgon so by being known as Gippsland and not just Morwell we are incorporating the whole of the area



Bill Wright: The veteran New Zealand has been called up by Morwell.



# AROUND THE CLUBS

## SALAPSIDIS REPLACEMENT FOR MORI?

By LANCE LIBRANDI

To clarify the recent reports regarding Damian Mori's move overseas, the club has confirmed he has been sold outright to German club Borussia Moenchengladbach, not transferred on loan, as previously reported.

His new club has agreed to lodge the first payment of the transfer fee \$300,000 with Soccer Australia, with the remainder to be forwarded at the end of the German season if Mori is kept on. There is a clause in his contract enabling the former Zebra to return to Adelaide City if his overseas career does not work out. If this scenario eventuated, the initial payment would be retained by City.

One thinks Damian should receive an extra \$100,000 if he can manage to pronounce his new club's name confidently by the end of the season!

Adelaide City has re-signed another former player to bolster its squad, depleted with the departure of Damian Mori to Germany. Pacy forward Joe Barbaro, away from the Zebra camp for the last three years, will again don the black and white stripes this season.

His recall no doubt came about because of City's lack of strikers at the moment and also due to his recent excellent form with SA Premiers, Blue Eagles.

Barbaro may well slot straight into the starting line-up. Salapsidis is still in South America with the Young Socceroos, and Michael Musitano is on the injury list.

Barbaro joins Michael Brooks as the other former City player, recalled by coach John Nyskohus.

Negotiations with Parramatta Eagle midfielder Anthony Surjan have stalled, with the club deciding not to sign him following trials.



Kostas Salapsidis: Gaining valuable training and experience with Young Socceroos.

## TSEKENIS TRIALLING WITH PALACE

Jim Tsekenis is still trialling with Crystal Palace in England. New recruit Andrew Borghetto will almost certainly get early experience in the front-runner position for West.

West Adelaide have Ross Aloisi and Cyrille Ndonga-Keller on the injured list.

Sharks Coach, Adrian Santrac has also had the worry of Branko Milosevic and

Hamilton Thorp recovering from injury.



## UNISYS SIGN UP WITH COSMOS

By GRAHAM COOKE

Canberra Cosmos board member David Lamont described it as good midfield work which had finally resulted in a goal being scored. Certainly, a packed audience at the Ericsson Cup club's season launch cheered as loudly as they might have done for any score at Bruce Stadium.

The news, which had been kept a closely guarded secret at least until the day of the ceremony, was that 20 months after its official formation, the club has finally secured a major sponsor. Information technology giant Unisys will back the Cosmos to the tune of \$100,000 during the 1996-97 campaign.

That may not be the longest, or the largest sporting sponsorship ever delivered to a Canberra team but to the club that, as chairman Paul Murphy said "was going out the back door" as late as June, it was truly manna from heaven.

The Canberra principal of Unisys, Trevor Moore, said the company was no stranger to sponsorship in the national capital "but for some time now we have been looking for a sporting sponsorship to complement our activity in the cultural field, and we are delighted to have found the Cosmos," he said.

And the company's national principal, Murray Bergin, reminded the audience Unisys had once sponsored Canberra Cannons in the National Basketball League.

"I don't want to get your hopes up, but when we were the sponsor, that team finished on top of the national competition in two of the three years."

Also introduced on the night was the club's new mascot, Cosmo the astronaut, and the new gold and red away strip.

Speaking afterwards, Murphy said the sponsorship deal was the greatest coup in his period as chairman. "It is just for this season at the moment, but in the end it was put together very quickly."

"We have to sleep together for a year, and hopefully the partnership will extend further into the future."

"I'd say we are 75 per cent along the road to recovery. The other 25 per cent is really up to the people of Canberra who must support us through the gate."

In a further development, three players from local side Canberra Deakin, defender Mladin Rogic, striker Peter Buljan and utility player David Milin, have been signed for a full season - they had previously been released by the ACT League club on a week-to-week basis.

## PLENTY OF CHANGES IN NEWCASTLE

By DANE SKAFTE

The Topper Breakers have signed seven new players for this year's Ericsson Cup season.

The most interesting is probably former New Zealand international Robert Ironside who will strengthen the Breakers midfield. The 29 year old has played the last eight seasons with Sydney Club UTS Olympic, and will add plenty of experience to the side.

Ironside has played 62 times for New Zealand, 25 of them as captain. Ironside will be joined in the midfield by 22 year old Mark Wilson who has come from Northern New South Wales First Division Club Highfields Wolves.

Wilson will play a major part for the Breakers and will line up alongside his brother Gary who played with the Newcastle side last season.

The Breakers defence has added depth with Todd McManus and Mathew Austin who have signed for a season.

McManus was recruited from Highfields Wolves while Austin played last season with First Division Club Hamilton Warriors.

The Topper Breakers have signed two new front runners with Liam McGuire coming from State League club Adamstown Rosebud and Evis Heath also from Hamilton Warriors. They will be expected to lift the team this term from

Woodenspooners last year.

The major change in the squad will be the goalkeeping, with former Breakers keeper Craig Carter being 'released'.

His replacement will be either Liam Baker from Adamstown Rosebud or Adam Fittock who played in the Youth side for the majority of last season. Fittock has played well in pre season games. The final decision will be left to John Kosmina.

\*Breakers Coach, Kosmina will be hoping his team can finish in the top half of the table this season.

"The majority of the guys have played one season in the

Ericsson Cup, they really must be strong and concentrate if they want results," Kosmina said.

Kosmina agreed that signing Robbie Ironside is a big bonus for the club.

"He is a good leader and can fit in anywhere on the park."

Kosmina admitted that he would keep the policy of bringing Newcastle players into the side.

"The only way that the Newcastle players will get seen is by putting them in the squad."

"There are plenty of talented players in this region," he concluded.

## Warringah Dolphins Soccer Club

Trials for players wishing to play for the **DOLPHINS** in the 1997 NSW Soccer Federation's Super League in the following age groups (as at 1/1/97) will start: —

### YOUTH LEAGUE

★ ★ ★

**U/13, U/14, U/15 & U/16**  
**3rd Grade — U/18**

Date: Sunday 20th October, 1996

Venue: Cromer Park,  
South Creek Road,  
Dee Why

Time: YL — 9am — U/18 — 10AM

**Assistant coaches required for**

**U/13, U/14 & U/15**

For further information please phone:  
Mike Turner: Youth League Convenor

**9949 5528**

Bob Davis: **9489 2969**

## MARCONI SOUTHERN DISTRICTS JUNIOR SOCCER SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

GD: 13-6pm TUESDAY OCTOBER 15, then 17, 19, & 20

GD: 14-6PM TUESDAY OCTOBER 22, then 24, 26 & 27

GD: 15-6PM TUESDAY OCTOBER 29, 31, NOVEMBER 2 & 3

GD: 16-6PM TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5, 7, 9 & 10

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# ERICSSON CUP

## MATCH REPORTS

### SYDNEY STEAL THE GLORY

By RICHARD KREIDER

Perth Glory had the Ericsson Cup red carpet swept from under them at Perth Oval last Sunday, after UTS Olympic inflicted a 4-1 defeat on them before an effervescent crowd of nearly 10,000.

Somebody forgot to tell Olympic that it was meant to be Glory's day. The most isolated city in the world has taken nineteen years to become a part of the National League competition, and the day they do, they are welcomed with a clenched fist instead of an open hand. Even, Lady Luck decided to have an off day.

After just 11 minutes, Paul Strudwick brought a rapturous roar from the home crowd when he drilled a 15 metre strike onto the underside of the cross-bar, that would have put the newcomers in front had it been scored in the '66 World Cup.

But, Olympic then brought a deathly silence to the ground 11 minutes later, when Kris

Tajanovski opened the scoring from an unnecessary free-kick, with a quality header from the narrowest of angles.

The visitors took the slender advantage into the changing-rooms and immediately found themselves with their hands full after the break. Strudwick glanced a Slobodan Despotovski centre just wide after 50 minutes, then four minutes later Gareth Naven bumped and hustled his way past four defenders before losing out to a fine save from George Bouhoutsos.

Their best chance to equalise arrived in the 57th minute when the Olympic 'keeper crashed into Alan MacKenzie to concede a penalty. Bouhoutsos must have felt relieved when local referee Eddie Lennie showed him just a yellow card.

Despotovski accepted the pressure of taking the spot-kick, only to direct his strike onto an upright, and even Scott Miller returned the rebound straight

into the grateful arms of the 'keeper. Just seconds later, Despotovski climbed high to power a header onto the crossbar, but again, Olympic retaliated with devastating effect by going 2-0 up in the 63rd minute, when Norm Tome almost effortlessly curled a free-kick around the Glory wall and past a beaten Tom Maras. The visitors went even further ahead one minute later when Trajanovski was ideally placed to scramble a loose ball home. With the home side now in defensive distress, Olympic capitalised by scoring a fourth in the 72nd minute, by way of a cruel deflection off Perth defender Doug Ithier who tried to intercept a Tome strike.

Three minutes into stoppage time, Glory supporters finally got something to cheer about when Mackenzie redirected a Dale Wingell centre into the net with a diving header.

"The score doesn't indicate a true reflection of the game,"

said Glory coach Gary Marocchi.

"We put Sydney under a lot of pressure, but the breaks didn't come our way."

Even Olympic coach Dave Radcliffe expressed a touch of sympathy for the Ericsson Cup newcomers, "Obviously, it's disappointing for them," he said. "The penalty certainly could have changed the complexion of the game had they not missed."

Although the Glory showed they will be a handful in the Ericsson Cup, Radcliffe ushered a warning to Gary Marocchi about his squad which is not only deficient in numbers, but also in size. "Glory are not a big side, and I believe this will go against them, especially in set pieces around their goalmouth," he said.

Three of Sunday's goals were scored from dead-ball situations, so Radcliffe can certainly back up his observations.



Alan MacKenzie: Scored the historic first goal for Perth Glory.

**Perth Glory:** Maras, Ithier, Naven, Wilkinson (Wingell 67), Buljubasic, Naven, McVittie, Strudwick (Beretovac 70), Despotovski, MacKenzie, Miller.

**UTS Olympic:** Bouhoutsos, Barrett, Ciantar, Baillie, Tsekenis, Tome (Sorras 64), Edwards (Augerinos 84), Ardone, Trajanovski, Poimer (Meredith 57), Blagojevic.

**Goals:** Perth Glory: MacKenzie (89).

**UTS Olympic:** Trajanovski (22, 65), Tome (63), og. 72.

**Yellow Cards:** Perth Glory: Nil.

**UTS Olympic:** Ciantar (4), Ardone (9), Bouhoutsos (57).

**Referee:** E. Lennie.

**Crowd:** 9,639.

**POY:** 3-Trajanovski, 2-Tome, 1-MacKenzie.

## ZEBRAS & STRIKERS OPEN WITH STALEMATE

By LANCE LIBRANDI

Adelaide City and Brisbane Strikers played out a lacklustre draw in front of a subdued crowd at Hindmarsh Stadium on Sunday night. Both teams were missing key strikers through injury, Frank Farina from Brisbane and Michael Musitano of Adelaide, and this was reflected by the relative goal inactivity.

In fine conditions, both teams started the game well, with chances being created at both ends. Brisbane had the greater share of opportunities in the first half, but neither team could penetrate the opposing defence. Good chances fell early on to the

Strikers, with a corner in the 25th minute finding Rod Brown who headed just over the bar.

Later, young teenage forward Wayne Knipe found himself with the ball and Jason Petkovic to beat following a rebounded cross from Kasey Wehrman, but he too put his shot high.

The Zebras also had chances in the first half, with Brad Hassell, who was lively early in the game, embarking on a solo run, cutting inside and shooting low and hard. Clint Bolton needed a great save to turn the shot around the post and deny the home team the lead. Mannillo made

a similar run and shot in the 34th minute, which was again held by Bolton, John Gibson, playing as a makeshift forward, caused the Brisbane defence some trouble with a penetrating run, but was brought down by last defender Chay Hews who was cautioned for the professional foul.

The second half saw both teams approach the game far more cautiously, neither side wanting to risk conceding a goal in their A-League opener. Highlight of the game thus far was the intriguing duel on the right flank between speedsters Brad Armour and Troy Cranney, which made for

exciting viewing.

Further good chances fell to Brown again, this time in the first minute of the second period with another header drawing a great save from Petkovic. A weaving run by Gibson, who then squared a perfect ball to Milan Ivanovic, could have resulted in a goal but for a weak and wide effort which did not trouble the keeper.

A rash of substitutions from both sides almost brought the game to a halt, with both teams seeming to run out of legs. It was Brisbane who finished strongest, with an opportunity for Wehrman resulting in another Petkovic save. The

chance of the game fell to Brown for Brisbane in the last minute. A rare defensive error by the City backline ended up with the ball at Brown's feet, three metres out with only the goalkeeper to beat. He instead put the ball straight into Petkovic's arms, and the golden opportunity to seal valuable away points in Adelaide was lost.

Both teams will no doubt need to fine tune their squads some more in the coming weeks, but Adelaide City appear to have the biggest problems with a definitive lack of striking firepower.



Sean Cranney: Constantly tested City's defence.

**Adelaide City:** Petkovic, Armour, Yates, Ivanovic, Tobin, Verschoor, Hassell (Barbaro 82), Mennillo (Dodd 67), Gibson, Brooks, Brazzale (Costanzo 56).

**Brisbane:** Bolton, Hunter, Phillips, S. Cranney, Brown, Wright, T. Cranney, Knipe (Tollenaere 58), Brayshaw (Becirbegovic 68), Hews, Wehrman.

**Yellow Cards:** Brisbane: Hews (18), Wehrman (79).

**Adelaide:** Nil.

**Crowd:** 3,719.

**Referee:** W. Dade.

**POY Votes:** 3-S. Cranney (Strikers), 2-Petkovic (Zebras), 1-Phillips (Strikers).

## WOLVES STOP UNITED IN THEIR TRACKS

By JOHN ECONOMOS

A completely revamped and most defiant, Wollongong City, containing no less than seven new signings in their starting XI, proved a major stumbling block by holding a star-studded Sydney United to a spectacular 3-3 draw last Sunday night at the Croatian Sports Centre.

And Wollongong did it with an uncharacteristic style of non-stop attacking Soccer, almost as colourful as their new Blue and Gold 'away-strip'.

United had to struggle the last 14 minutes a man short as Joe Vrkic was sent off for his second bookable offence. Ironically Vrkic had fouled the same player, (the elusive Wollongong striker Tony Perinic), two minutes before halftime that earned him his

first yellow.

Wollongong's super-fit and mobile midfield of Matt Horsley, Sonny Sevin, Anthony Surjan and playmaker Michael Reda, had United consistently bewildered whilst twin-markers, Richard Lloyd in tandem with strapping 18 year old Steve Laybutt, were unyielding at the back.

The fact that six goals were ultimately scored was not a reflection on sloppy defences but largely attributed to the fact that both 'keepers Zeljko Kalac and Brett Hughes had poor games with their confidence levels glaringly well below par.

The industrious Wollongong drew first blood in the seventh minute through their skipper Matt Horsley, completely

unmarked drove from the right a flat shot into the bottom left corner following good lead-up work from left-back Neil Harlock then a cross by striker Nick Joseski.

Three minutes later United 'balanced the books' through David Zdrilic. Zdrilic from inside the goal area volleyed into the net a neat cross rifled in from the right by midfielder Chad Gibson.

Wollongong regained the lead in the 15th minute through striker Joseski. Nuggety midfielder Sevin sent in a long and lofty cross from the right which United's towering goalkeeper Kalac got one glove to, but it had little resistance to prevent lurking striker Joseski heading into the net from the back post and very close-range.

Dynamic and fiery central

midfielder Reda, bust through and was almost into the clear in the 19th minute, but was mowed down from behind by United's giant Olympic Games centre-back Mark Babic who was promptly and efficiently booked by referee Matthew Breeze.

United almost levelled the scoreline in the 28th minute but midfielder Ante Moric smashed his free-kick from 20 metres off the base of the right post.

Five minutes from the break United levelled at 2-2. The powerful central marker Babic moved up into the attack and following a corner from the left slung in by newly-signed linkman Kresimir Marusic, Babic cracked a violent shot from the edge of the area and over the top of a crowded penalty

box that flashed in just under the horizontal.

Five minutes after the break the hungry Wolves yet again regained the lead, and again through Horsley. Reda having a marvellous match exploding out of central midfield, laid on a great flat ball for Horsley to run onto and finally nail into the far corner.

United were denied by debutant Connolly in the 68th. Highly skilled linkman Marusic blasted from the left a shot that was partly blocked by Hughes. The ball spun out of Hughes' gloves and was heading goalwards as Connolly swung behind in cover to kick the certain danger off the goal-line.

Following a corner, Wollongong inexplicably failed to clear and talented striker Ante Milicic hungrily



Matt Horsley: Played a commanding game, scored two goals.

stabbed into the target from just two metres.

A most dissatisfied United coach Branko Culina, later stated, "Kalac, Babic, Marusic and Cvetko all urgently need

**Sydney United:** Kalac, Vrkic, Babic, Popovic, Gibson (Cvetko 62), Enes, Moric (Kupresak 83), Bilokapic, Zdrilic, Marusic, Milicic.

**Wollongong City:** Hughes, Lloyd, Laybutt, Connolly, Harlock, Horsley, Sevin (Naumovski 60), Reda (Bourke 81), Surjan, Perinic, Joseski (Dimoski 88).

**Scorers:** United: Zdrilic (9), Babic (37), Milicic (81).

**Wolves:** Horsley (7, 52), Sevin (15).

**Yellow Cards:** United:

Babic (19), Vrkic (43), Zdrilic (69).

**Wolves:** Laybutt (28), Reda (35).

**Red Card:** Vrkic (76).

**Referee:** M. Breeze.

**Crowd:** 4,085.

**POY:** 3-Reda (Wolves), 2-Horsley (Wollongong), 1-Marusic (Utd).

match-fitness, and we have to get the right balance on the pitch. Our defence was shaky and we are not going to do or achieve anything till we all come down to earth."





# ERICSSON CUP



## RESULTS AND SCORERS ROUND ONE

**Newcastle Breakers** .....  
(Bennett 62, 67, 69, 73; Thomas 78; Sprod 80)  
**West Adelaide** .....  
(Perin 60)  
Crowd: 4,813

☆☆☆  
**Canberra Cosmos** .....  
(Kelly 11; Perinovic 85)  
**Marconi Fairfield** .....  
(Zoric 23; Foster 31; Babic 49)  
Crowd: 3,500

☆☆☆  
**Gippsland Falcons** .....  
**South Melbourne** .....  
Crowd: 3,235

☆☆☆  
**Sydney United** .....  
(Zdrilic 9; Babic 37; Milicic 81)  
**Wollongong City** .....  
(Horsley 7, 52; Josevski 14)  
Crowd: 4,085

6 **Collingwood Warriors** .... 3  
(Boutsianis 8; Taliadoros 68, 72)

1 **Melbourne Knights** ..... 0  
Crowd: 12,561

☆☆☆  
2 **Perth Glory** ..... 1  
(MacKenzie 89)

3 **UTS Olympic** ..... 4  
(Trajanovski 22, 65; Tome 63, og (Ithier 68))  
Crowd: 9,639

☆☆☆  
0 **Adelaide City** ..... 0  
0 **Brisbane Strikers** ..... 0  
Crowd: 3,719

### ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR ROUND 1:

1995/96 - 30,017  
1996/97 - 41,544

## ERICSSON CUP TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle Breakers	1	1	0	0	6	1	3
UTS Olympic	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Collingwood Warriors	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Marconi Fairfield	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Sydney United	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Wollongong City	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Adelaide City	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Gippsland Falcons	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Brisbane Strikers	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
South Melbourne	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Canberra Cosmos	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Perth Glory	1	0	0	1	1	4	0
Melbourne Knights	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
West Adelaide	1	0	0	1	1	6	0

## LEADING GOALSCORERS

Jason Bennett	4	Newcastle Breakers
Kris Trajanovski	2	UTS Olympic
Matthew Horsley	2	Wollongong City
Kimori Taliadoros	2	Collingwood Warriors
Mark Babic	1	Sydney United
Sean Babic	1	Marconi Fairfield
Con Boutsianis	1	Collingwood Warriors
Craig Foster	1	Adelaide City
Nick Josevski	1	Wollongong City
Norman Kelly	1	Canberra Cosmos
Ante Milicic	1	Sydney United
Jamie Perin	1	West Adelaide
Marko Perinovich	1	Canberra Cosmos
Alan McKenzie	1	Perth Glory
Glenn Sprod	1	Newcastle Breakers
Scott Thomas	1	Newcastle Breakers
Norman Tome	1	UTS Olympic
David Zdrilic	1	Sydney United
Vlado Zoric	1	Marconi Fairfield

## NEXT WEEK'S FIXTURES

**BRISBANE STRIKERS V NEWCASTLE BREAKERS**  
SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER 1996 - 7.00PM

**MARCONI FAIRFIELD V COLLINGWOOD WARRIORS**  
SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER 1996 - 7.00PM

**SOUTH MELBOURNE V SYDNEY UNITED**  
SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 1996 - 6.00PM

**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS V GIPPSLAND FALCONS**  
SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 1996 - 6.00PM

**WOLLONGONG CITY V ADELAIDE CITY**  
SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 1996 - 6.00PM

**UTS OLYMPIC V CANBERRA COSMOS**  
SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 1996 - 6.30PM

**WEST ADELAIDE V PERTH GLORY**  
SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 1996 - 7.30PM





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CENTRE: Keith Johnstone, Brendan Markey, Keith Stevens, Lee McRobert, Kasay Keller, David Nurse, Tim Carter, Bobby Bowry, Maurice Doyle, Richard Cadette, Ken Barry.  
FRONT: Ian Macdonald, Jason Dair, Paul Hartley, Gerard Lavin, Jimmy Nicholl, Martin Harvey, Lucas Nelli, Steve Crawford, David Sinclair, Ron Howard.



# WORLD RESULTS & TABLES

**African Cup Champions' Cup**  
Semi-Finals - First leg

Jeunesse Kabylie (Algeria)	1 Shooting Stars (Nigeria)	1
Chabab Belouizdad (Algeria)	1 Sodigraf (Zaire)	1

**China Professional League**

Shanghai Shenhua	4 Guangdong Hongyuan	0
Dalian Wanda	1 Guangzhou Apollo	0
Guangdong Shenzhen	2 Beijing Guoan	1
Sichuan Quanxing	0 Guangzhou Songri	0
Jinan Jiangjun	2 August First	0
Tianjin Sanxing	1 Yanbian Hyundai	1

**Table**

Dalian Wanda	20	12	8	0	40	16	44
Shanghai Shenhua	20	10	8	2	38	17	38
August First	20	7	11	2	26	17	32
Jinan Jiangjun	20	8	6	6	23	21	30
Guangzhou Apo	20	7	7	6	24	22	28
Sichuan Quanx	20	7	7	6	19	20	28
Beijing Guoan	20	7	6	7	27	25	27
Tianjin Sanxing	20	5	8	7	18	27	23
Guangdong Hon	20	4	10	6	18	2	22
Yanbian Hyunda	20	3	7	10	16	29	16
Guangdong Shen	20	3	6	11	12	27	15
Guangzhou Song	20	1	8	11	8	25	11

**England Premier league**

Blackburn	0 Arsenal	2
Derby	0 Newcastle	1
Everton	2 West Ham	1
Leeds	2 Nottingham Forest	0
Leicester	1 Chelsea	3
Manchester United	1 Liverpool	0
Tottenham	1 Aston Villa	0
Wimbledon	4 Sheffield Wednesday	2

**Table**

Newcastle	9	7	0	2	15	10	21
Arsenal	9	6	2	1	19	8	20
Liverpool	9	6	2	1	18	7	20
Manchester Utd	9	5	4	0	19	6	19
Wimbledon	9	6	0	3	16	9	18
Chelsea	9	4	4	1	14	11	16
Shef Wednesday	9	4	1	4	11	15	13
Aston Villa	9	3	3	3	11	10	12
Everton	9	3	3	3	10	11	12
Middlesbrough	8	3	2	3	14	13	11
Tottenham	9	3	2	4	7	8	11
Leicester	9	3	2	4	7	12	11
Derby	9	2	4	3	8	11	10
Leeds	9	3	1	5	8	13	10
Sunderland	8	2	3	3	6	6	9
West Ham	9	2	2	5	8	14	8
Nottingham For	9	1	4	4	9	16	7
Southampton	8	1	2	5	10	12	5
Coventry	8	1	2	5	3	13	5
Blackburn	9	0	3	6	5	13	3

**Division 1**

Barnsley	0 Crystal Palace	0
Birmingham	3 Bradford	0
Bolton	3 Oldham	1
Portsmouth	2 Charlton	0
Queens Park Rangers	2 Manchester City	2
Reading	1 Grimsby	1
Sheffield United	0 Tranmere	0
Swindon	1 Oxford	0
West Bromwich	1 Huddersfield	1
Norwich	3 Ipswich	1

**Table**

Bolton	11	8	2	1	27	14	26
Norwich	11	7	3	1	17	7	24
Barnsley	10	6	2	2	17	10	20
Tranmere	12	5	4	3	16	13	19
Crystal Palace	11	4	6	1	23	10	18
Huddersfield	10	5	2	3	17	12	17
Wolverhampton	11	5	2	4	15	12	17
Stoke	9	4	3	2	14	15	15
Ipswich	11	3	5	3	17	16	14
Sheffield United	9	4	2	3	16	12	14
West Bromwich	10	3	5	2	14	13	14
Queens Park Ran	12	3	5	4	14	16	14
Oxford	11	4	2	5	13	9	14
Portsmouth	12	4	2	6	13	17	14
Swindon	11	4	2	5	12	13	14
Manchester City	10	4	1	5	11	13	13
Grimsby	12	3	3	6	15	24	12
Birmingham	9	3	3	3	11	10	12
Port Vale	11	2	6	3	9	13	12

Reading	11	3	2	6	12	22	11
Bradford	12	3	2	7	9	19	11
Southend	11	2	4	5	11	22	10
Charlton	9	3	1	5	7	10	10
Oldham	12	1	3	8	12	20	6

**Division 2**

Blackpool	2 Gillingham	0
Bournemouth	2 Wycombe	1
Crewe	2 Brentford	0
Millwall	2 Chesterfield	1
Notts County	1 Bristol Rovers	1
Peterborough	1 Bury	2
Rotherham	1 Burnley	0
Shrewsbury	0 Luton	3
Stockport	1 Preston	0
Walsall	0 Plymouth	1
Watford	1 Wrexham	1
Bristol City	2 York	0

**Table**

Brentford	12	8	3	1	25	14	27
Bury	12	7	3	2	17	10	24
Watford	12	7	2	3	13	10	23
Crewe	12	7	1	4	18	13	22
Millwall	12	6	3	3	22	16	21
Wrexham	11	5	5	1	15	11	20
Chesterfield	12	6	2	4	10	10	20
Luton	11	6	1	4	14	13	19
Bristol Rovers	12	5	4	3	13	10	19
Bristol City	12	5	2	5	22	18	17
Stockport	12	5	2	5	15	17	17
Burnley	12	5	1	6	17	16	16
Plymouth	12	4	4	4	15	17	16
Shrewsbury	12	4	4	4	12	15	16
Peterborough	12	3	6	3	23	22	15
Blackpool	12	4	3	5	11	12	15
Gillingham	12	4	2	6	12	15	14
Bournemouth	12	4	1	7	11	14	13
Notts County	12	3	4	5	10	11	13
Walsall	12	3	2	7	12	18	11
York	12	2	4	6	15	20	10
Wycombe	12	2	4	6	14	19	10
Preston	12	3	1	8	11	16	10
Rotherham	12	2	2	8	13	23	8

**Division 3**

Brighton	1 Cambridge	2
Cardiff	1 Barnet	2
Colchester	3 Wigan	1
Exeter	0 Northampton	1
Fulham	3 Doncaster	1
Hartlepool	1 Darlington	2
Leyton Orient	1 Hull	1
Mansfield	0 Swansea	0
Rochdale	2 Carlisle	2
Scarborough	0 Chester	0
Scunthorpe	2 Lincoln	0
Torquay	2 Hereford	1

**Table**

Fulham	12	9	0	3	19	10	27
Cambridge	12	8	2	2	20	13	26
Carlisle	12	7	4	1	18	8	25
Wigan	12	7	2	3	20	14	23
Torquay	12	5	4	3	15	11	19
Hull	12	4	7	1	10	8	19
Scarborough	12	4	6	2	19	14	18
Chester	11	5	3	3	14	11	18
Barnet	12	4	5	3	13	9	17
Scunthorpe	12	5	1	6	13	15	16
Leyton Orient	12	4	4	4	10	8	16
Darlington	12	4	3	5	18	19	15
Lincoln	12	4	2	6	14	17	14
Hartlepool	12	4	2	6	13	14	14
Cardiff	10	4	2	4	9	11	14
Northampton	12	3	4	5	15	13	13
Colchester	12	2	7	3	13	16	13
Mansfield	12	2	7	3	9	12	13
Doncaster	12	3	3	6	13	17	12
Swansea	12	3	3	6	12	17	12
Hereford	12	3	2	7	12	18	11
Exeter	12	3	2	7	10	18	11
Rochdale	11	2	5	4	9	13	11
Brighton	12	2	2	8	11	23	8

**France**

Bastia	0 Monaco	0
Auxerre	1 Lens	0
Nice	1 Montpellier	0
Lille	3 Nantes	3
Metz	0 Paris Saint-Germain	1
Bordeaux	0 Nancy	1
Le Havre	4 Lyon	1

Marseille	0 Caen	1
Strasbourg	2 Guingamp	1

**Table**

Paris SG	12	8	4	0	18	3	28
Auxerre	12	5	6	1	12	5	21
Monaco	12	5	5	2	18	10	20
Bastia	12	5	5	2	17	12	20
Strasbourg	12	6	1	5	15	16	19
Bordeaux	12	4	6	2	11	6	18
Metz	12	4	6	2	12	9	18
Lyon	12	4	5	3	15	14	17
Marseille	12	4	4	4	13	12	16
Guingamp	12	4	4	4	11	11	16
Cannes	11	4	4	3	9	9	16
Lille	12	4	5	3	15	18	17
Rennes	11	4	3	4	15	16	15
Lens	12	4	3	5	12	17	15
Montpellier	12	2	6	4	11	15	12
Le Havre	12	3	3	6	12	14	12
Nantes	12	1	6	5	20	20	9
Nice	12	2	3	7	10	22	9
Caen	12	1	5	6	6	15	8
Nancy	12	1	4	7	8	14	7

**Germany - Bundesliga**

Borussia Dortmund	2 Duisburg	0
Hamburg	2 Arminia Bielefeld	2
Werder Bremen	3 Schalke	0
Karlsruhe	1 Bayer Leverkusen	1
Hansa Rostock	2 VfB Stuttgart	2
Cologne	2 Bayern Munich	4
Freiburg	1 Borussia Moench	0
1860 Munich	4 St Pauli	2

**Table**

VfB Stuttgart	10	7	2	1	28	10	23
Bayern Munich	10	7	2	1	20	11	23
Bayer Leverkus	10	7	1	2	25	14	22
Borussia Dort	10	6	1	3	19	14	19
Karlsruhe	10	5	2	3	18	12	17
Werder Bremen	10	5	1	4	22	13	16
Cologne	10	5	1	4	15	14	16
VfL Bochum	9	4	3	2	12	12	15
1860 Munich	10	4	1	5	17	18	13
Fortuna Duessel	9	4	1	4	6	13	13
Borussia Moench	10	3	2	5	10	11	11
Hamburg	10	3	2	5	15	18	11
Schalke	10	2	4	4	9	16	10
Hansa Rostock	10	2	3	5	12	16	9



# WORLD RESULTS & TABLES

## Russia

Lada Togliatti	1	Zhemchuzh Sochi	1
Uralmash Yekaterin	1	KAZ NabChelny	0
Krylya Sovetov Samara	3	Torpedo Moscow	0
Spartak Moscow	3	Dynamo Moscow	1
CSKA Moscow	2	Alania Vladikavkaz	0
Lokomotiv Moscow	3	Cherno. Novorossi	1
Rotor Volgograd	1	Baltika Kaliningrad	0
Tekstilshchik Kamys	2	Zen.St Petersburg	0
Loko Nizhny Novgorod	2	Rostsel. Rostov	3

## Table

Rot. Volgograd	31	20	6	5	56	24	66
Spartak Moscow	31	19	8	4	63	29	65
CSKA Moscow	31	19	6	6	54	29	63
Al. Vladikavkaz	31	19	6	6	56	34	63
Dynamo Moscow	31	18	7	6	51	30	61
Loko. Moscow	31	14	10	7	42	27	52
Lok.N.Novgorod	31	12	6	13	34	44	42
Kryl Sov Samara	31	11	8	12	28	35	41
Torpedo Moscow	31	10	11	10	36	40	41
Zen St Petersburg	31	12	4	15	29	34	40
Rostsel Rostov	31	10	7	14	52	34	37
Balt Kaliningrad	31	9	10	12	33	33	37
Ch. Novorossiisk	31	9	5	17	31	49	32
Zhemchuz Sochi	31	9	5	17	32	51	32
U. Yekaterinburg	31	7	9	15	35	52	30
KA Nab Chelny	31	7	6	18	33	50	27
TekstilKamyshin	31	4	11	16	23	41	23
Lada Togliatti	31	4	7	20	18	50	19

## Scotland

### Premier Division

Aberdeen	3	Dunfermline	0
Celtic	1	Motherwell	0
Dundee United	0	Kilmarnock	0
Hibernian	2	Rangers	1
Raith	1	Hearts	1

## Table

Rangers	8	7	0	1	18	5	21
Celtic	8	6	1	1	22	8	19
Aberdeen	8	4	2	2	18	8	14
Hibernian	8	4	1	3	8	11	13
Hearts	8	3	2	3	10	14	11
Motherwell	8	2	4	2	9	7	10
Dunfermline	8	2	3	3	11	18	9
Dundee United	8	1	2	5	5	9	5
Kilmarnock	8	1	2	5	8	17	5
Raith	8	1	1	6	7	19	4

## Division 1

Clydebank	1	Airdrieonians	4
Falkirk	0	Dundee	1
Partick	6	East Fife	0
St Mirren	2	Stirling	1
St Johnstone	1	Greenock Morton	0

## Table

Dundee	9	6	2	1	10	4	20
Greenock Morton	9	5	1	3	12	8	16
St Johnstone	8	4	2	2	12	5	14
Airdrieonians	8	3	4	1	13	9	13
Falkirk	9	3	2	4	6	7	11
Partick	9	2	4	3	13	10	10
St Mirren	8	3	1	4	11	10	10
Clydebank	9	3	1	5	8	15	10
East Fife	9	1	4	4	7	20	7
Stirling	8	1	3	4	7	11	6

## Division 2

Ayr	1	Livingston	0
Berwick	1	Stranraer	2
Clyde	0	Stenhousemuir	4
Hamilton	2	Dumbarton	0
Queen of the South	1	Brechin	5

## Table

Ayr	9	6	2	1	20	9	20
Hamilton	9	6	2	1	17	6	20
Livingston	9	6	2	1	14	7	20
Stranraer	9	4	2	3	9	10	14
Queen of the Sth	9	3	2	4	13	17	11
Clyde	9	3	2	4	7	12	11
Stenhousemuir	9	2	3	4	12	6	9
Brechin	9	2	3	4	11	12	9
Dumbarton	9	1	3	5	9	17	6
Berwick	9	1	1	7	12	28	4

## Division Three

Alloa	3	Forfar	4
Arbroath	1	Queen's Park	0
Cowdenbeath	1	East Stirling	0
Montrose	2	Inverness	2
Ross County	3	Albion	2

## Table

Montrose	9	5	2	2	16	9	17
Cowdenbeath	9	5	2	2	13	8	17
Albion	9	4	3	2	13	8	15
Inverness	9	4	3	2	14	11	15
Alloa	9	3	3	3	12	12	12
Ross County	9	4	0	5	12	14	12
Arbroath	9	2	4	3	7	9	10
Queen's Park	9	2	4	3	12	16	10
Forfar	9	3	1	5	16	21	10
East Stirling	9	1	2	6	6	13	5

## Spain

Atletico Madrid	2	Real Betis	2
Compostela	1	Barcelona	5
Tenerife	1	Valladolid	3
Espanyol	0	Celta	0
Zaragoza	1	Athletic Bilbao	1
Sevilla	0	Valencia	2

## Table

Barcelona	7	5	2	0	21	11	17
Real Betis	7	4	2	1	13	5	14
Real Madrid	6	4	2	0	11	4	14
Deportivo Corun	6	3	3	0	11	4	12
Atletico Madrid	7	3	2	2	11	7	11
Valladolid	7	3	2	2	9	5	11
Real Sociedad	6	3	2	1	8	5	11
Tenerife	7	3	1	3	16	8	10
Valencia	7	3	1	3	10	7	10
Logrones	6	3	1	2	7	7	10
Racing Santand	6	3	1	2	8	9	10
Oviedo	6	3	0	3	10	10	9
Espanyol	7	2	2	3	11	10	8
Celta Vigo	7	2	2	3	6	9	8
Sporting Gijon	6	2	2	2	7	11	8
Athletic Bilbao	7	2	2	3	9	14	8
Rayo Vallecano	6	2	1	3	10	7	7
Zaragoza	7	1	4	2	10	13	7
Compostela	7	2	1	4	7	18	7
Sevilla	7	1	1	5	3	8	4
Hercules	6	1	0	5	2	14	3
Extremadura	6	0	0	6	3	17	0

## Yugoslavia

Mladost (L)	2	Hajduk	1
Rad	1	Becej	2
Proleter	1	Cukaricki	0
Zemun	2	Borac	1
Buducnost (P)	0	Partizan	3
Red Star	3	Vojvodina	1

## Table

Partizan	9	8	1	0	25	6	25
Red Star	9	7	1	1	18	8	22
Vojvodina	9	4	3	2	13	9	15
Becej	9	4	3	2	11	12	15
Zemun	9	3	4	2	10	9	13
Mladost (L)	9	3	3	3	14	12	12
Rad	9	3	2	4	11	8	11
Proleter	9	3	1	5	12	15	10
Hajduk	9	2	3	4	8	8	9
Cukaricki	9	3	0	6	11	16	9
Buducnost	9	2	1	6	8	17	7
Borac	9	1	0	8	5	23	3

## World Cup Results

### European Qualifiers

#### Group 1

Greece	2	Slovenia	0
Greece	3	Bosnia	0
Slovenia	0	Denmark	2
Denmark	2	Greece	1
Bosnia	1	Croatia	4

## Table

Greece	3	2	0	1	6	2	6
Denmark	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Croatia	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Slovenia	2	0	0	2	0	4	0
Bosnia	2	0	0	2	1	7	0

## Group 2

Moldova	0	England	3
Moldova	1	Italy	3
England	2	Poland	1
Italy	1	Georgia	0

## Table

England	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Italy	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Poland	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Georgia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Moldova	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

## Group 3

5 Azerbaijan	0
1 Finland	0
1 Switzerland	0
2 Switzerland	3
3 Hungary	0

## Table

Norway	2	2	0	0	8	0	6
Switzerland	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Hungary	2	1	0	1	1	3	3
Azerbaijan	2	1	0	1	1	5	3
Finland	2	0	0	2	2	4	0

## Group 4

5 Belarus	1
1 Sweden	2
1 Estonia	0
0 Scotland	0
1 Belarus	0
0 Scotland	2
0 Austria	1
1 Latvia	1

Estonia v Scotland (to be decided by FIFA)

## Table

Sweden	3	2	0	1	7	3	6
Scotland	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
Austria	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Belarus	4	1	1	2	3	7	4
Estonia	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Latvia	3	0	1	2	2	5	1

## Group 5

4 Cyprus	0
2 Bulgaria	1
1 Bulgaria	2
1 Russia	1

## Table

Russia	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
Israel	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Bulgaria	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Luxembourg	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

## Group 6

3 Faroe Is.	1
6 Malta	0
1 Slovakia	2
2 Spain	6
6 Malta	0
6 Malta	0
1 Yugoslavia	8
0 Spain	0

## Table

Yugoslavia	3	3	0	0	17	2	9
Slovakia	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Czech Rep.	2	1	1	0	6	0	4
Spain	2	1	1	0	6	2	4
Faroe Is.	4	0	0	4	5	19	0
Malta	3	0	0	3	0	18	0

## Group 7

0 Wales	5
6 San Marino	0
2 Turkey	1
1 Holland	3
0 Belgium	3

## Table

Wales	3	2	0	1	12	3	6
Belgium	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Holland	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Turkey	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
San Marino	3	0	0	3	0	14	0

## Group 8

Macedonia	3	Liechtenstein	0
Iceland	1	Macedonia	1
Romania	3	Lithuania	0
Liechtenstein	0	Ireland	5
Lithuania	2	Iceland	0
Iceland	0	Romania	4
Ireland	3	Macedonia	0
Lithuania	2	Liechtenstein	1

## Table

Ireland	2	2	0	
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# WORLD STORIES

## MARADONA'S MANAGER ARRESTED FOR DRUG PEDDLING

Argentina's Diego Maradona was said by his lawyers last week to be "very distressed" at the arrest of his manager Guillermo Coppola on suspicion of drug peddling.

The silver-haired, tanned Coppola surrendered to police after a day on the run, following a dawn raid on his lavish Buenos Aires apartment that police said turned up more than 500 g of cocaine in a flower vase.

Judge Hernan Bernasconi, who in recent days has ordered the arrest of Maradona's brother-in-law Gabriel Esposito and former Argentine team player Alberto Tarantini, said the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) had shown interest in Coppola.

"The DEA has taken an interest in this case and we have also received some last-minute information from them," he told reporters, adding that he suspected Coppola had "links with people in the drugs world in South America and Europe."

Maradona's lawyer Daniel Bolotnikof told reporters the star was "very distressed" about the arrests and added: "It's awful, I personally cannot believe it's true."

Coppola, 48, smiled and smoked when taken to his cell. But he told local television from his hiding place hours earlier: "They planted the drugs that were found in my apartment."

Coppola's flashy apartment, with gymnasium, sauna, six bathrooms and separate wardrobes for black shoes and brown shoes was described as "a home where it was usual for drugs to be all over the place."

Drug scandals have plagued Maradona and Coppola for years. Maradona, suspended for failing a dope test at the US World Cup, admitted his addiction this year.

Signed up by Buenos Aires team Boca Juniors last year, he has also been accused of switching a post-match urine test in August.



Diego Maradona: Distressed after his manager was charged with drug offences.

Many Maradona fans blame his drug habit on the man who has been his manager since 1985.

When Maradona played for Naples, Coppola, a former bank clerk, was charged with selling drugs to his teammates.

He is also being investigated about the death of a Buenos Aires nightclub owner in early 1994.

"I know I don't have a kindergarten image," Coppola said yesterday.

A man with friends in high places, he was often seen at President Carlos Menem's home and helped him celebrate his 1995 re-election and mourn the death of his son Carlitos.

Media photos often show him with Menem's private secretary Ramon Hernandez, but Bernasconi said neither Hernandez nor any other government official was implicated in the new charges.

## PARANA BITE CRUZEIRO IN BRAZIL

Four players were sent off as Cruzeiro was knocked off the top of the Brazilian championship today after losing 2-0 to lowly Parana in a bad tempered encounter.

Both teams were reduced to 10 men by halftime as Parana defender Edinho and Cruzeiro midfielder Ailton were given their marching orders for violent fouls.

Cruzeiro midfielder Fabinho and Parana's Carlos Alberto Dias were shown the red card in the second half for the same offence.

Dias had put Parana in front in the 50th minute before he was sent off and the game was settled three minutes from the end when Alisson scored again.

Guarani, second at the start of the day, also lost, 1-0 away to Atletico Mineiro,

allowing Palmeiras to return to the top of the table with a 2-1 win over bottom club Bragantino.

Striker Viola scored his first goal since



Paulo Nunes: Put away a hat-trick for Gremio against his former club Flamengo

joining Palmeiras from Spanish club Valencia as the unbeaten championship favourite came from behind.

For the second time in four days, Flamengo suffered the humiliation of seeing one of its former players score a hat-trick against them.

Paulo Nunes, who began his career with Flamengo, scored all the goals for Gremio as it beat the beleaguered five-time Brazilian champion 3-1 to go back into the top eight. Flamengo was beaten 4-1 by arch-rival Vasco da Gama with Edmundo, who played for them last year, scoring three times. Flamengo also lost 4-1 to Sao Paulo last week and has now slumped to 11th place.

The top eight of the 24 teams go into the quarter-final stage.

Santos, runners-up last year, was jeered off the field after losing 2-1 at home to Sport Recife.

## KLINSMANN ANSWERS CRITICS WITH EFFECT

Juergen Klinsmann silenced his critics with two goals as Bayern Munich won 4-2 at Cologne on Saturday to draw level with VfB Stuttgart at the top of the German first division.

Germany captain and striker Klinsmann, angered by criticism over his failure to score in

recent weeks, headed home for Bayern's opening goal in the 35th minute and then hit the Bavarians' crucial third in the 68th.

The victory helped Bayern go level with 23 points after Stuttgart could only draw 2-2 at lowly Hansa Rostock. Bayer Leverkusen, who drew 1-1 at Karlsruhe, are third one point behind.

Klinsmann was also involved in clinching Bayern's second goal through a penalty when he was brought down in the area in the 56th minute. Midfielder Mehmet Scholl struck home from the spot.

Cologne replied with a goal from Ralf Hauptmann in the 59th minute and a penalty from Austrian forward Toni Polster in the 77th. But Bayern made sure of the vital three points with a 90th minute goal from Marcel Witeczek.



## Croatian Corner

BY JOHN VISKOVICH

Croatia is a great Cemigre country and people of that descent can be found in every part of the world. The proof is below with eleven Croatian background players who can and have represented eleven different countries.

☆☆☆

### Jose Buljubasich Argentina

This goalkeeper has already played for a number of years in Spain with Tenerife after leaving Argentina. Jose is only 23 years old and has a big future ahead of him. Because he is uncapped by Argentina he could be persuaded to play for Croatia, in the future.

☆☆☆

### Chris Zoricich New Zealand

One of the most consistent players in the Ericsson Cup. Chris is a defender who fits well into a midfield role and also pops up to score goals. His Australian club Brisbane Strikers, won't be happy to lose him to an overseas club but also can't stop him from going to a bigger stage.



Chris Zoricich: Defender who fits well into midfield.

Zoricich is a New Zealand international.

☆☆☆

### Teddy Lucic Sweden

His first glimpse at international football was when he featured in Sweden's squad for the World Cup in 1994. Sweden reached the semi final in 94 but sadly

couldn't qualify for Euro '96. Now that Lucic is a regular for Sweden he has joined a big club and that is Gothenberg. Gothenberg are in the Champions Cup and Teddy is in the team.

☆☆☆

### Ned Zelic Australia

The only Australian to play

for the FIFA world team and showed in the game against Brazil that he didn't look out of place surrounded by super stars of football. Played for Borussia Dortmund in Germany and featured in a championship win, UEFA Cup Final and some good games in other European competitions. Australian International who by scoring a late winner for Australia took his country to the Barcelona Olympics. Now in France, but sadly injured, at club Auxerre.

☆☆☆

### Dasovic Canada

Canadian international who still plays for Toronto Croatia in Canada. Had a brief stint in Croatia with Dinamo Zagreb before going back to his homeland. Scored a vital own goal playing for Canada against Australia which gave the Socceroos enough to go through to try to qualify for the World Cup 94 against Argentina.

☆☆☆

### Massimo Susic Italy

Susic is probably the only Croat background player in Italy who hasn't changed his name to a more Italian sounding one. However he is a good defender who plays for Serie A giants Parma and has featured in all of its success. Due to the high influx of foreigners at Parma Susic has seen his spot in the team taken by Frenchman Bravo.

☆☆☆

### Edi Puskarich USA

Edi plays for major league club, Dallas Burn and is rated one of the best players in the League even though he is still uncapped by the USA. Other Croatian background players who come to mind as potential internationals are Bojan Vukovic (New England Revolution) and Goran Hunjak (Tampa Bay Mutiny) who both star for their clubs.

☆☆☆

### Ivica Vastic Austria

Vastic is last season's top goal scorer and Player of the Year so it was no surprise that he became an Austrian international. He is owned

by Italian Club Torino but still plays in Austria for Strum Graz.

☆☆☆

### Oskar Draguicevich Uruguay

Oskar after playing in Uruguay for most of his career was persuaded to play in the Major Soccer League. He plays for New England Revolution and is still on a two year contract which will mark his retirement. In South America, Croatian background people love soccer not only in Peru, Uruguay and Bolivia but more so in Chile with Colo Colo and in Argentina with Velez Sarsfield because both clubs have Croatian committee members and a large number of fans.

☆☆☆

### Josip Weber Belgium

Josip has been the best striker in Belgium for the past decade and some experts say Belgium hasn't had a striker like him before. On his first appearance for Belgium he scored six goals and then

followed it up by pulling a hat trick in his second match. Those were friendly's but when it counted Weber couldn't score in World Cup 94, but was pulled down twice in the box which resulted in penalties. The once Hajduk Split reject now plays for Anderlecht but sadly is injured and will be on deck in the next few weeks. He was Belgium's top league scorer on no less than three occasions.

☆☆☆

### Fredi Bobic Germany

This VFB Stuttgart striker is the best young prospect in Germany and has represented his country at Euro 96. A Dinamo Zagreb fan as a kid he is part of no less than six Croatian background players who have represented Germany at U/21 level.

☆☆☆

For more Croatian Sports News tune into Cro 2000 with legendary presented Ante Grabovac. The program is broadcast in English Wednesdays at 8.45pm on Sydney's 98.5FM and shouldn't be missed!



# PHIL MURPHY REPORTS

## PORT KEMBLA TAKE GRAND FINAL

## BOOST ON AND OFF FIELD FOR WOLVES

Port Kembla had a player sent off with 20 minutes to go, but still beat league Champions Lysaghts in Sunday's Premier League Grand Final at Brandon Park.

A crowd of 5,162 - an ISA record - saw referee Stephen Jaros send Port Kembla midfielder Jon Angelucci from the field for a second bookable offence. Angelucci dragged Lysaghts midfielder Noel Spencer back after he had broken clear down the left. Five minutes earlier, the Port Kembla player had been booked for a foul on the edge of his own box.

The winning goal was scored after 27 minutes by Robbie Davies and it was a case of history repeating itself, as Port Kembla beat Lysaghts 1-0 last year, with Davies also scoring.

On Sunday he accepted a pass from Matt Borg and outpaced the cover defence to beat goalkeeper Warwick Young with an angled shot.

Lysaghts had their chances but at times looked a shadow of the side which won the championship by a big margin.

Coach Casey de Bruin, in charge of Lysaghts for the last time, said his players looked flat. He said he had been very disappointed in them.

"We operated at about 70 per cent of our capacity out there", he said.

Port Kembla coach Adrian Alston refused to pick out any stars. "They were magnificent as a team and I was always quietly confident", Alston said. "I think everyone was of the opinion the team to score first would have a big advantage. Fortunately, it was us!"

Giant Port Kembla goalkeeper Daniel Beltrame was named man of the match but Jock Morlando also had a top game at the back. The Port Kembla defence never allowed Lysaghts any room and they became frustrated towards the end.

With the 10-man Port Kembla getting players behind the ball effectively, Lysaghts strikers John Danzo and Steve Krishna became ineffective.

For Lysaghts, midfielder Neill Wallace was the pick while Mike Hollifield was strong at the back.

In youth grade, Northern United also had a player sent off and also won 1-0.

Aaron O'Brien getting the winner in extra time.

Lysaghts gained some consolation by winning the reserve grade 2-0 with goals from Andrew Harrower and Paul Harries.



Adrian Alston: His team was successful before big crowd.

Wollongong City have some extra support from the Town Hall this season.

The city's Mayor, David Campbell, has joined the board and is keen to help the Wolves prosper. He has been a keen supporter since the club went into the national competition in 1981.

Recognised in Wollongong as a keen follower of most sports, Cr Campbell and his family have been regulars at Brandon Park on match nights.

He told ABSW he was looking forward to working on the board. "The Wolves are a vital part of the city's sporting setup."

"When you consider the many different nationalities we have in the region they should get better support. Our team is probably the most multi cultural in the Ericsson Cup."

"Hopefully they will be more successful than last season and create more interest within the community. This region has a great soccer history and we have produced many great players over the years."

"We boast the oldest soccer club in Australia in Balgownie and the list of star players produced around here is endless."

Other new board members are Lube Markovski, Mario Mastroianni and John Crittenden.

Markovski runs the local SportsCo franchise and Wolves captain Matt Horsley has worked for him part-time for two years.

Mastroianni has been one of Illawarra's leading referees for some time and runs a card and gift shop.

Crittenden operates a very successful reception centre and was previously a board member for three seasons.

Wolves chairman Brian Hastings said the newcomers all had much to offer. He said the new-look board had already explored a number of new ideas to improve the situation in Wollongong on and off the field.

"For a number of clubs in the league this is a very important season, we fall into that category," Hastings said.

"We have taken on two full-time people in Graeme Haney as General Manager and John Denison who is the Marketing Manager. That is a big financial step for us. It means we have to get bigger crowds at our home games and to do that we have to win on a regular basis. We are all confident that will be the case."

## SEASON TO START WITH A BANG!

Olympians arriving by helicopter, fireworks, a multicultural parade. It's all happening at Brandon Park on Sunday!

Wollongong Wolves aim to mark their first home game of the season with promotions to please everyone.

Newly appointed marketing man John Denison has been

working overtime to come up with a great program.

It will include a multicultural festival parade, a salute to Wollongong's Atlanta Olympians, the club's championship winning team of 1988 will be presented to the crowd and there will be a spectacular fireworks display before the kickoff. If that

isn't enough, there will also be face painting for the kids, the 198FM "beat the goalkeeper" competition carrying a cash prize of \$1000, pass the giant ball around the crowd, Wolfpack and Lotto giveaways. Then the legendary wolfchase for under 12s at halftime.

There will also be a new

innovation at the ground - a giant screen to cover all the action and provide fans with replays of goals.

Before we forget - the Wolves are playing Adelaide City and the kickoff time is 6pm.

Denison said he was confident the supporters would enjoy the Ericsson Cup

action and promotions that were lined up for the rest of the season.

"We plan to make our games entertainment for all the family," he said.

"It won't be a matter of turning up and paying \$10 or the family package of \$20 and just watching 90 minutes of football."



## QSF TARNISH COAST'S GOLD

BY GLENN DAVIS

The Queensland Soccer Federation has been accused of knee-capping Gold Coast soccer and putting the code back ten years on the tourist strip, in the wake of the 1997 Premier League competition unveiled last week.

Gold Coast City, backed by 22 local clubs and with cash reserves in excess of \$100,000 apart from corporate sponsorship, is the surprise omission from the restructured eight team league. The new league consists of Bundaberg, Beenleigh, Brisbane City, Coalstars, Rochdale, Taringa, Wynnum and premiers Brisbane Lions.

Gold Coast City, which was to use the well presented

Carrara as its home base and already had sold 12 corporate boxes, have expressed disgust with the QSF finding and will appeal against the decision.

And in what could loom as a major embarrassment to the QSF, high profile Brisbane club, Rochdale Rovers, which gained admission, is also considering an appeal against the new look league.

Rochdale President Geoff Millward, who was one of three club presidents on a QSF sub-committee to look into the proposed new league, said he felt let-down by the composition of the new league.

"It's not what league competition unveiled last week.

s intended and it's a bit of a let down," Millward said in a

radio interview.

"It is not in the spirit and interest everyone has been working for."

"We are not ruling out that Rochdale may appeal (against the decision). We have to see from our side the viability of being in the competition put forward."

"We are currently spending \$200,000 a year at Rochdale and it's not a good business decision to spend that amount only to win \$7,000 at the end of the year."

Peter Williamson, President of the Gold Coast Soccer Steering Committee said the Gold Coast was an area which could not be neglected by the QSF as it had ten per cent of the State's registered players with more than 10,000 in the game and 440 teams in school

soccer.

"This has been the biggest con-job in Queensland soccer," Williamson said.

"And there hasn't been any consultation process. We sent an invitation out to all the directors of the QSF to lunch and meet with us at Carrara, but in their wisdom they declined."

QSF President Wallace Dann said the Board believed the eight team competition would place soccer in a better position to sustain strong, viable and attractive competitions well into the future.

Under the new guidelines, clubs admitted to the premier competition must meet stringent criteria, must be competitive at a semi-professional level and

contribute to the promotion and development of the game.

In a major departure from tradition, promotion and relegation has been scrapped for up to three years.

Two conferences, north and south, each consisting of 12 teams forms the new second division.

An independent appeals panel will be formed by the QSF to deal with any backlash against the restructured premier league, which the QSF hopes could lead to a viable future state wide competition.

However, a successful appeal from any club would be at the expense of another club.

This ruling was also attacked by Williamson, who said it put "soccer against

### QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION



soccer".

Williamson also was critical of the QSF voting system which always disadvantaged the Gold Coast region.

"As a region we can't become full members of the

QSF," he said.

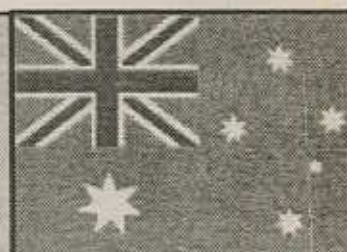
"We (the Gold Coast) don't think of it as the QSF. It's more a Brisbane Soccer Federation and in reality that is what it is."

"It's really an antiquated political system."





# Australian Talent Identification Championships

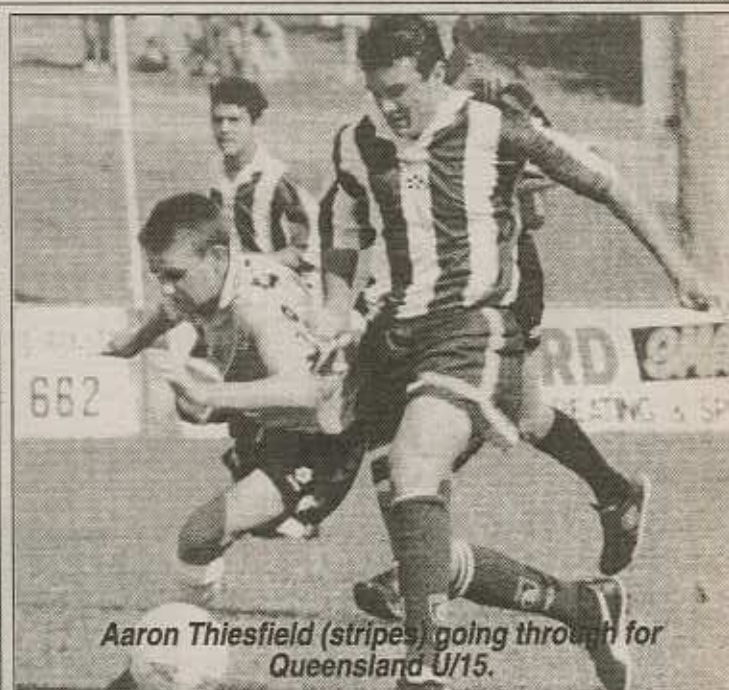


## Brisbane October, 1996

PICTORIAL SOUVENIR — PHOTOS BY MORRIS MCGIFFEN



NSW Under 15 Champions 1-0 victors over Queensland with 'Golden' Goal.



Aaron Thiesfield (stripes) going through for Queensland U/15.



NNSW (dark shorts) clear from Country NSW in U/15s game.



Winning goal Queensland v NSW U/15s Final scored by Anthony Mondello (hidden).



NNSW (dark shorts) defend against Country NSW in U/14 competition.



Queensland Under 14 Champions. They beat South Australia 3-0.





# WOMEN'S WRITES

BY JANENE MAR



## NSW 1997 AUSTRALIAN SENIOR CHAMPS



L-R: Elizabeth Cotton, Kristen Dorsch, Belinda Barter, Jane Hornsby, Katrina Boyd, Gill Thomson, Bruce Tilt (coach), Joanne Peters. M: Alison Hayes, Becky Kilpatrick, Kristy Smith, Traci Bartlett, Kaye Yardin. F: Anissa Tann-Darby, Lisa Rowland, Vicki Linton, Stephanie Kite.

### AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY 1996 GREEN & GOLD SELECTION

The following merit team was selected from the 16 teams competing in women's soccer at the recent Australian University Games in Canberra.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Rhonda Campbell	Souther Cross Uni
Elizabeth Cotton	Uni Sydney
Corinne Currey	Griffith Uni
Kristen Dorsch	Uni Western Sydney
Nepean	
Ingrid France	Uni Queensland
Heloise Gibb	Uni Sydney
Emily Lancsar	Aust National Uni
April Mann	Griffith Uni
Michelle Masters	Charles Sturt Uni
Mitchell	
Bridget McCloskey	Charles Sturt Uni
Mitchell	
Belinda Michalik	Macquarie Uni
Joanne Munn	Uni Sydney
Nicole Munn	Uni Sydney
Susan Read	Aust National Uni
Chris Reading	Uni New England
Leanne Richardson	Charles Sturt Uni
Mitchell	
Teena Riley	Uni W. Sydney Nepean

### NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP AIS 7-12 NOV. 1996

Belinda Barter	NSW
Louisa Bisby	VIC
Sharon Black	SA
Katrina Boyd	NSW
Lizzy Claydon	WA
Sarah Cooper	NT
Elizabeth Cotton	NSW
Cindy Doyle	ACT
Sarah Fitzgerald	TAS
Sonia Gegenhuber	QLD
Kelly Golebiowski	NSW
Belinda Kitching	QLD
Carolyn Lynch	TAS
Tracie McGovern	NNSW
Louise McMurtrie	QLD
Kristy Mehan	NNSW
Kristy Moore	SA
Joanne Peters	NSW
Joanne Powell	NNSW
Karly Pumpa	ACT
Kim Revell	QLD
Bridgette Starr	NNSW
Kristyn Swaffer	SA
Tammie Thornton	QLD
Tracey Wheeler	WA
Amy Wilson	ACT
Shelley Youman	NNSW

#### OFFICIALS:

Tom Sermanni	National Coach
Jeff Olver	Assistant Coach
Greg Brown	Assistant Coach
Leigh Wardell	Scholarship Coach
Ed Hollis	Physiotherapist
Jeanette Hartz-Karp	Team Bldg. Consultant

## KIWI LEGEND LEADS PETONE

Sydney spectators were unexpectedly treated to some fine football from New Zealand club Petone last week in two matches at Valentine Park against NSW ITC and the NSW State Team.

Unaware of the quality of the visitors, locals including ITC Assistant Coach Leigh Wardell were stunned to see Petone captained by none other than New Zealand's legendary midfielder Maureen Jacobson, and the two re-introduced themselves after having met several times on the park in internationals over the years.

At age 34, the highly talented Jacobson remains New Zealand's top player, and is their current captain. Tall and athletic, she is renowned for her close skills, vision, and football brain.

**ALL-WHITE AT 17**  
Jacobson made her debut for the All-Whites in 1979 for the Trans-Tasman Trophy against Australia at age seventeen. She may have been selected earlier had New Zealand not gone into international limbo after first forming the National Team four years previously.

Jacobson became the first female Kiwi to play semi-professionally overseas, having donned the jerseys of Millwall Lionesses in England, and HJK in Helsinki, Finland. "I was really just in England on holiday, when I was asked to play for Millwall," said Jacobson. "Whilst there, a scout from Finland approached me, and I played there for six months. It was a great experience."

#### PNG NEXT

Next on the schedule for the

NZ National Team is a one-off test against Papua New Guinea on 7 November, a game Jacobson will miss due to work commitments, and a match she cannot see will prove of any real benefit to the team considering the timing and the opposition.

Jacobson is not the only international in the Petone lineup. Strong striker Wendy Henderson and fast left flanker Daniella Taylor are also current All Whites while the side can boast a couple of NZ youth representatives as well.

Coach Nora Watkins too, has an impressive background. "Nora is a former New Zealand player, and was Assistant National Coach to Dave Boardman before Maurice Tillotson took over the reins," said Jacobson.

Based in Wellington on the southern tip of New Zealand's North Island, Petone's pedigree is reflected in their results. Competing in the Central League, a ten team regionalised competition including sides from New Plymouth and Napier, Petone has taken the championship each time since the league's inception three years ago.

The Swan Cup, a nationwide knockout in its second year of operation, has eluded Petone, however. "We are the only team to make both finals, and lose both," relates Jacobson.

#### FREE-KICK BLAST

Essentially an end of season recreational visit, Petone were happy to pull on their boots during their ten-day stay in Sydney. Former Aussie captain Julie Murray played for the team, who were travelling with less than the full complement of players.

First-up opponents NSW



Maureen Jacobson (7) challenges Sunni Hughes of Australia.

ITC, plus some State Youth players filling in for the absentees, soon discovered what they were up against, and it wasn't what they had expected. A goal down after three minutes, the ITC youngsters had no answers against the strength in the tackle and speed on the ball of the experienced Petone.

The home side went down 6-2, with those present appreciative of the quality of the visitors, and ITC's Joanne Peters' incredible free kick blasted into the net from 25 metres on the left before anyone could react.

"Our girls learnt some valuable lessons," said ITC Coach Connie Selby. "They've never come up against a team that hits so hard then keeps on running. They've now seen what football's like on the other side."

Petone's second match two days later against the senior

State Team turned out to be a great spectacle. With several youngsters from the Tuesday game doubling up for the depleted State side, the home side combined well and were determined to make a strong start against Petone.

But then against the run of play, some Jacobson magic set up a seventh minute Henderson goal. From here on in, Petone settled into their game, making for some entertaining soccer as domination of the match fluctuated between both teams for the remainder.

Twenty further minutes of sustained Petone attack could not be converted into goals, NSW sweeper Anissa Tann-Darby unbeatable at the back. The match then took a turn with two quick NSW goals in the 28th and 31st minutes from Elizabeth Cotton and Peters to go in at the break with a 2-1 lead.

#### PETONE OUT FIRING

Petone came out firing after half time and came close to equalising twice in the first six minutes. A shot then crashed against the post ten minutes later, as chinks began to appear in the NSW defence.

Murray unleashed a long distance boomer in the next minute to draw the scores level. Petone continued their attacking raids and were awarded a penalty ten minutes later, Henderson getting an extraordinary ricochet off both posts before the ball rolled over the goal line for a 3-2 lead.

NSW made a gutsy comeback and were rewarded with three minutes remaining when a Peters ball found Taryn Rockall on the right. Keeping her cool, the midfielder drove her shot past the keeper, to the delight of her teammates and a 3-3 scoreline.

## NNSW ITC TRIPLE CROWNED

The Northern NSW ITC team completed the New South Wales triple crown last holiday Monday with victory in the Waratah Shield final against St George Saints at Valentine Park.

They now take the Shield up north to add to their NSW Women's State League premiership and championship titles for 1996.

Unfortunately, postponed five weeks ago due to inclement weather, last weekend was the last opportunity the knock out final could be rescheduled to, with September taken up by the youth and senior National Championships.

The long break put St

George at a big disadvantage. Not match fit and missing several players, the Saints went down 7-0 to the well-oiled NNSW, the majority of whom had competed at Nationals.

A very physical encounter, NNSW ITC scored early in the match and led by four goals at the break. St George fought hard to break through, but NNSW's sweeping moves in attack backed up by a solid defence were unstoppable. The Saints' frustrations continued as they were reduced to ten players in the second half.

The win caps off an historic season for Northern, who surprised everyone after finishing near the bottom of the league the previous year.

## S.A. Tops

Sturt Marion has again taken the honours in the South Australian State League. Finally completing the weather-interrupted 21-round competition, Sturt remained undefeated with nineteen wins and two draws. Eight points clear of Modbury Vista and West Adelaide, Sturt scored 106 goals for the season, with just twelve against.

Boasting Australian Team members Sharon Black and

Kristyn Swaffer, this is the third year in a row Sturt Marion has achieved the League and Cup double.

Stirling Districts clearly won the Division 2 title ahead of Campbelltown City, and Sturt Marion were easy winners of Division 3 with Woodville City runners-up. Gepps Cross scraped in by a single point from Aldinga Bay to claim the Division 4 crown.

## Arsenal on Tour?

There are plans on the drawing board for Arsenal to visit Australia's shores in May next year.

One of the top teams in the English women's Premier League, their loss to Doncaster Belles in the opening round remains their only defeat for the season so far.

Arsenal have been boosted by the recent signing of USA player Caralee Reynolds. However, the team is presently without Reynolds' services, as she was suddenly whisked back home for security training by her employer American Airlines.

☆☆☆☆





# SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHART —



## COLUMBIA CONTINUE TO THRIVE

**S**triker Faustino Asprilla continued to thrive in the Colombia team while yet another goalkeeper got on the score sheet as South America's intriguing World Cup qualifiers continued last week.

Asprilla scored for the sixth time in five qualifiers as Colombia beat neighbour Ecuador 1-0 to go four points clear at the top of the single nine team group.

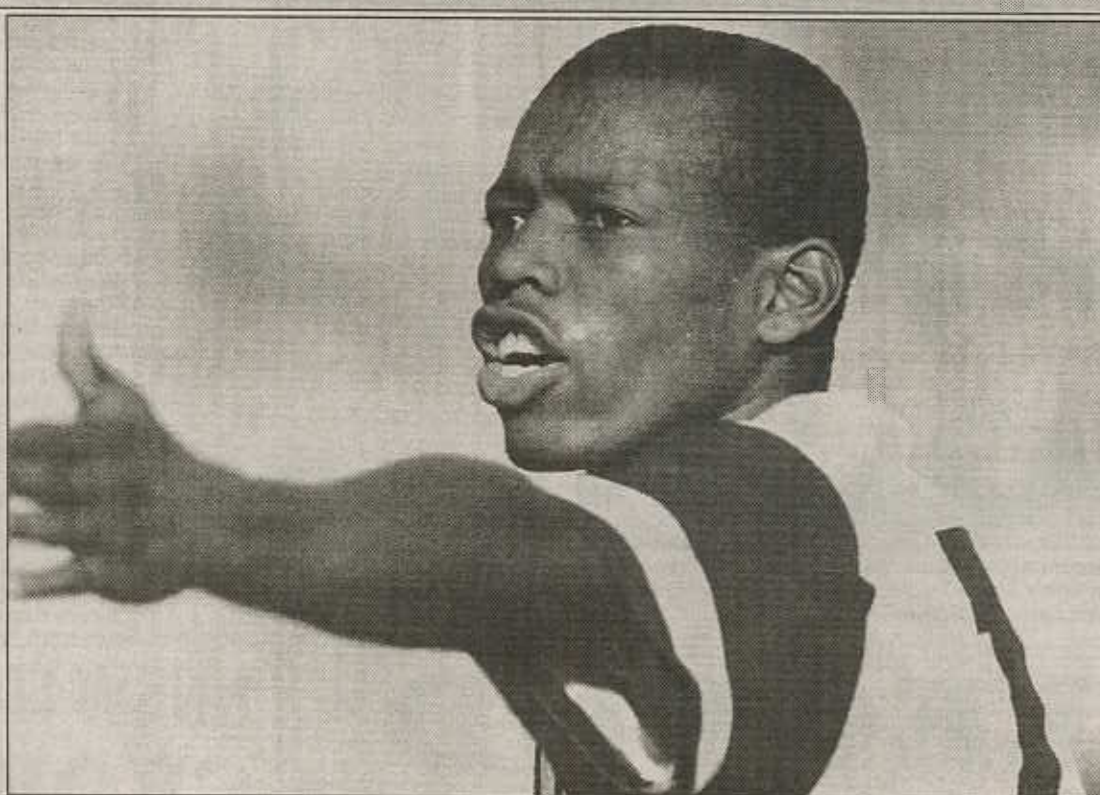
Venezuela goalkeeper Rafael Dudamel emulated Paraguay's Jose Luis Chilavert, who last month gave his country a 1-1 draw away to Argentina by scoring direct from a free kick.

The Argentines were again on the receiving end but, despite trailing for half an hour in the first half of the continent's - minnows, eventually won 5-2.

Paraguay continued its impressive form with a 2-1 win at home to Chile while Uruguay, which like Argentina had struggled in previous matches, scored a crucial win 1-0 over Bolivia on Tuesday after to an own goal by hapless defender Juan Manuel Pena.

The new format, in which all the countries play each other twice, continued to pull in the fans, who appear to be appreciating the chance to see South America's top stars perform regularly in their own continent.

Venezuela, where soccer is a poor second to baseball in popularity, still managed to attract 30,000 people to its game in the provincial town of San Cristobal. This was nearly twice the crowd in soccer mad Italy that watched their team



Faustino Asprilla: Scored for the sixth time in five games.

play Georgia earlier in Perugia.

Paraguay and Ecuador were watched by more than 40,000 each, while 70,000 saw Uruguay's game in the Centenario stadium.

Asprilla, whose clever flicks often appear to outwit his own team-mates when he plays with his English club Newcastle United, has been revelling in the monthly matches with players who were brought up playing the same one-touch soccer as he was.

His goal in the 62nd minute ended a 100 percent home

record for Ecuador, which is coached by Colombia's Francisco Maturana, a man who has had a huge influence on Colombian soccer in the last decade.

Ecuador, which has never reached the World Cup finals, stayed second due to three previous home wins, including one against Argentina.

Argentina, which had not won any of its previous three games, fell behind to a seventh minute goal by Giovanni Savarese against an opponent it once beat 11-0 in 1975.

Ariel Ortega finally equalised in the 35th minute after a defensive mistake and in the second half Argentina finally asserted its authority with goals by Juan Sorin, Diego Simeone, Hugo Morales and Jose Alborno.

Dudamel's amazing strike from outside the penalty area came in the 87th minute. The result moved Argentina into third place and kept Venezuela rooted to the bottom.

Chilavert did not have a chance to increase his goal scoring tally as Paraguay came from behind to beat

Chile with goals by central defenders Carlos Gamarra and Catalino Rivarola.

Paraguay, which has already beaten Uruguay away, moved into fourth place and, with the inspirational leadership of the flamboyant Chilavert, looks capable of reaching the World Cup finals for the first time since 1986.

The top four teams go through to the 1998 finals in France. Brazil the reigning World Cup holders qualify automatically.

★ ★ ★

## MENOTTI WITH INDEPENDIENTE

**C**esar Luis Menotti, the coach who guided Argentina to victory in the World Cup of 1978 at senior level, and in 1979 the Argentine U20 side to win its first Youth World Cup, in Japan, has signed as manager of Independiente of Argentina.

Menotti replaces Humberto Grondona at the helm of the "Red Devils" with the aim of regaining some lost glory for the club who has won more international titles than any other club in the history of Argentine soccer.

Menotti has failed to win anything as coach since 1979. He has coached, among

others, the Argentine 1982 World Cup team, Spanish giants Barcelona and Atletico Madrid, Boca Juniors and River Plate of Argentina, Penarol of Uruguay, and the Mexican national team without any success.

This time Menotti will be in opposition to his most hated enemy: Carlos Salvador Bilardo, in charge of Boca Juniors. And the confrontation between their teams will be one of the highlights of the Argentine soccer league.

Boca started with a 3-2 away win against Estudiantes of La Plata while Independiente beat Ferro Carril Oeste 3-0.

### CONCACAF STANDINGS

GROUP 1									
Costa Rica	1	Trinidad & Tobago	0						
Trinidad Tobago	1	Guatemala	1						
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P		
Costa Rica	1	1	0	0	1	0	3		
Tri & Tobago	2	0	1	1	1	2	1		
Guatemala	1	0	1	0	1	1	1		
United States	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
GROUP 2									
Canada	3	Panamal	0						
Cuba	0	El Salvador	5						
Cuba	3	Panama	1						
Panama	1	El Salvador	1						
El Salvador	2	1	1	0	6	1	4		
Canada	1	1	0	0	3	1	3		
Cuba	2	1	0	1	3	6	3		
Panama	3	0	1	2	3	7	1		
GROUP 3									
Saint Vincent	0	Mexico	3						
Jamaica	3	Honduras	0						
Honduras	2	Mexico	1						
Saint Vincent	1	Jamaica	2						

## SOUTH AMERICAN 1998 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING ROUND

### URUGUAY 1 BOLIVIA 0

Played: Centenario Stadium, Montevideo, Uruguay

Crowd: 75,000

**URUGUAY:** Siboldi, Saguinetti, Herrera, Montero, Mendez, Saralegui (Gutierrez 83), Cedres, Poyet (Romerio 62), Francescoli, Fonseca, Otero (Bengoechea 81).

**BOLIVIA:** Trucco, Castillo, Pena, Sanchez, Sandy, Cristaldo, Baldivieso (Coibra 71), Melgar, Soria (Tufino 33), Castillo, Moreno.

**Goal:** Pena (o.g 64)

**Yellow cards:** Bolivia: Sanchez, Tufino, Cristaldo, Castillo. Uruguay: Fonseca.

**Red card:** Castillo (80)

**Referee:** Borgosano (Venezuela)

### COLOMBIA 1 ECUADOR 0

Played: Atahualpa Stadium, Quito, Ecuador

(2,850m above sea level)

Crowd: 42,000

**ECUADOR:** Morales, Rivera, Montano, Tenorio, Capurro, Hurtado (Obregon 62), Carabali, De Souza (Fernandez 74), Aguinaga, Hurtado, Delgado.

**COLOMBIA:** Mondragon, Cabrera, Bermudez, Lopez, Galeano, Serna, Alvarez, Rincon (De Avila 62), Valderrama, Asprilla, aristizabal (H. Lozano 62).

**Goal:** Faustino Asprilla (71).

**Yellow cards:** Colombia: V. Aristizabal, W. Cabrera, C. Valderrama. Ecuador: L. Capurro.

**Referee:** Elizondo (Argentina).

### PARAGUAY 2 CHILE 1

Played: Defensores del Chaco Stadium, Asuncion, Paraguay

Crowd: 41,000

**PARAGUAY:** Chilavert, Arce, Ayala, Rivarola, Gamarra, Enciso (Baez 60), Struway, Benitez, Acuna, Cardozo, Caballero (Rojas 46).

**CHILE:** Ramirez, Reyes, Fuentes, Margas (Estay 80), Miranda, Castaneda, Cornejo, Musri, Contreras (Rozental 65), Zamorano, Vergara (Goldberg 73).

**Goals:** Chile: Margas (22); Paraguay: Gamra (24), Rivarola (63).

**Yellow cards:** Chile: Musri, Fuentes, Ramirez, Vergara, Zamorano.

**Paraguay:** Benitez, Arce and Rojas.

**Referee:** Ruiz (Colombia).

### ARGENTINA 5 VENEZUELA 2

Played: Pueblo Nuevo Stadium, San Cristobal, Venezuela

Crowd: 25,000

**VENEZUELA:** Dudamel, Gonzalez, McIntosh, Gonzalez, Savares, Hernandez, Vera, Hernandez (Urdaneta 42), Miranda (Garcia 70), Guerra (Filosa 46), Moran.

**Coach:** Santana

**ARGENTINA:** Caballero, Diaz, Ayala, Berisso, Sorin, Simeone (Molina 87), Almeyda, Morales, Alborno.

**Goals:** Argentina: Ortega (25), Sorin (68), Simeone (77), Morales (86), Alborno (90).

### Continued...

Goalkeeper: Rafael Dudamel scored Venezuela's second goal with a free kick from 25 metres.

**Yellow cards:** Venezuela: Dudamel, Moran, Hernandez, McIntosh; Argentina: Simeone. **Referee:** Dluzniewzky (Uruguay)



### STANDINGS AFTER FIVE ROUNDS

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
Colombia	5	4	1	0	10	3	13
Ecuador	5	3	0	2	8	6	9
Argentina	5	2	2	1	9	6	8
Paraguay	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
Uruguay	4	2	0	2	4	5	6
Bolivia	4	1	1	2	7	5	4
Chile 4	1	1	2	7	8	4	
Peru 4	0	3	1	2	5	3	
Venezuela	5	0	1	4	4	15	1

### NEXT ROUND...

#### Round 6 - 10 November 1996

Chile v Uruguay (Santiago, Chile)  
Bolivia v Colombia (La Paz, Bolivia)  
Paraguay v Venezuela (Lima, Peru)  
Bye: Argentina

#### Round 7 - 15 December 1996

Argentina v Chile (Buenos Aires, Argentina)  
Uruguay v Peru (Montevideo, Uruguay)  
Venezuela v Colombia (San Cristobal, Venezuela)  
Bolivia v Paraguay (La Paz, Bolivia)  
Bye: Ecuador



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## 21ST YEAR LAUNCHED

The launch of the new Ericsson Cup NSL season went off without a hitch. Indeed, as launches go, it wasn't too bad at all. Christine Anu did a wonderful job with singing a couple of her songs, Kyle Patterson made a decent MC but as ever, the moment belonged to the players.

With at least one of the star players from each club in attendance, to show off the new kit designs and chat to the assembled media, the show belonged to them. Talking to players like Craig Foster, Kimon Taliadoris, Frank Farina and Co, it's refreshing to report that the vast majority of soccer players can actually hold a conversation and string more than two sentences together that don't include the words: "Er, yeah" or "mate". Equally refreshing was the fact that all coaches made themselves available and so too did the hierarchy of Soccer Australia, David Hill and George Negus the most notable. Not only were they open, answered the questions that needed to be asked but they looked very comfortable in doing so. That is important as a shifty looking official does not inspire confidence.

The new strips look good and should, for a change, be made available to the general

public at far more outlets throughout Australia, a concept that has been woefully lacking over the years. There are some real eye-openers this term, you are advised to wear the sunnies in some cases, and British footie fans should recognise a minimum of three designs. Well played Soccer Australia and Ericsson. SA have also appointed 'Gaffney International' as their licensing agent, a positive step as they also market the highly successful Simpsons and Bananas in Pyjamas amongst others. The Marketing and Merchandising aspect is of paramount importance if the game is to attract new people to it and the national marketing of the game and it's wares are but the first step.

TV coverage cannot be left in the cold either and an interesting, but overlooked aspect of the game is, SBS showed a wonderful few minutes of action from last season that they proudly announced, quite rightly so, were seen on 'free to air TV'. If the station can put together such a wonderful selection, with an excellent sound-track to match and including "that goal" from Damien Mori, which Alex Ferguson seems to have missed rather strangely for the assembled media, why not a video for the public?

I spoke to Kyle Patterson last Thursday, and asked why this was. The obvious answer would be the market size which, given a population the size of Australia, will always have to be reckoned with. However, the good news is that Ericsson Cup Season Highlights MAY be in the offering and is under consideration. With the NSL celebrating it's 21st year this term, it would be fantastic if a video commemorating this could be made. I certainly hope so and if it does, you heard it here first (as all the professional journo's would say). No doubt if it does happen, we'll review it and give an honest appraisal of what we see. What better way to get the message across though, a video compilation of the entire season. It works in Europe and it can work here too! Good luck with that one guys.

In addition though, the highly successful "On the Ball" and "Ericsson Cup Review" programmes will again be aired on Sunday mornings - 11.30am and Monday evenings - 7.30pm, respectively, in most states. For all the action of the weekend, this is the one that provides the lot.

All in all, it appears Soccer Australia has got it's act together, there was a general



David Hill: Launched the Ericsson Cup last week.

feeling of good things to come and of course, a lot of the 'mainstream' media were in attendance, as witnessed by the coverage on all the major TV networks. Then again, this feeling of another campaign about to begin lies within all of us but this season promises so much, let's hope it delivers.

Two very quick mentions here. Steve Darby - hope the foot improves in the near future, don't go over-doing it again mate, and to the

President of UTS Olympic, Mr Simon Konstantinidis, a vote of confidence for one reason, if no other. This gentleman actually spoke an awful lot of sense in our brief chat. We all know from past experiences, 'Club officials' and 'sense' don't often find their way into the same sentence so credit where it's due. Keep up the good work.

The season kicked off at the weekend, let's hope for a big one and wish the players well.

## GUNNERS ON SCREEN VIDEO REVIEW

The last of the video reviews for a while, this week we have a triumvirate of Arsenal videos that includes a bit of self indulgence as well as offering you an insight into two that fall into the "hard to obtain" category, those being the games against the National sides of France and South Korea.

Arsenal's Road to Wembley 1993

Highlights from all the games in the FA Cup involving Arsenal up to and including the semi-final match at Wembley against deadly rivals Spurs as the Gunners become the only club to win BOTH domestic cup finals in the same season, starting with the 3rd round Ian Wright hat-trick against Yeovil (away) to the epic 4th round encounters with a mighty Leeds United side. Following the 2-0 home defeat of Nottingham Forest, Arsenal head off to Suffolk as they tackle Ipswich Town in the quarter final before that meeting with Tottenham. This video does not include the final itself, hence the name but for Gunners fans, a real delight.

Star Rating: \*\*\*1/2 9:49  
stg (inc P+P)

### ARSENAL V STH KOREA

A one-off game in Singapore against one of Asia's top teams at the

National Stadium on 9th May 1990. Arsenal ran out as eventual 2-1 winners of the Caltex Cup in a game that produced a surprising amount of skill and commitment. The video is produced by Freeze Frame and Television Sport International in a combined effort that isn't too bad but perhaps not quite the standard you would expect from Freeze Frame although they were at the mercy of the Singapore TV crews after all. Decent game, good skills by the South Korean forward but you'll need to watch the film to find out who I'm talking about?

Star Rating: \*\*\* 10:49 stg  
(inc P+P).

### ARSENAL V FRANCE

Michel Platini was the then manager of a very good French side but all he could do was stand and watch in amazement as the Gunners produced a dazzling display of this beautiful game. Platini wanted to use this game as a measure of what to expect when the team played Scotland in a World Cup qualifying game as he thought the English and Scottish games were of a similar standard. They must have been as both Arsenal and Scotland ran out 2-0 winners.

What a shame? Arsenal played some terrific football on this particular night, I know

as I was there, and to watch the video brings it all back as they took a star studded French side to pieces. Brilliant stuff, well worth a look.

Star Rating: \*\*\*\*\* 10:49  
stg (inc P+P)

All videos are available from Tracks, 14 Railway Street, Hertford, Herts SG14-1BG. Use the official coupon below ONLY, and send off for a price list and details of the "Buy Four, Get One Free" (pay only postage on the free video) offer to ABSW readers. Our thanks to all at Tracks for the review copies, much appreciated.



## SOCCER GALORE

Congratulations to England and the Republic of Ireland on their World Cup qualifying match wins. England beat Poland 2-1 after being a goal down before Alan Shearer netted twice for the home side (as seen on Optus Vision), burying those awful memories of the 0-2 loss and 1-1 draw in 1973 and the Republic on their magnificent 3-0 win over Macedonia (as seen on Foxtel). So many channels, so much choice these days.

The best of luck must also go to Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland in their quest for World Cup glory. It could be a long road ahead for all the "Home International" sides. Only time will tell.

## INDOOR ON TV

The Australian Indoor Soccer (Five-a-side) Association have been in touch to tell that the Round Six matches will be partly televised this Saturday night.

The games: Eastern Suburbs v Sydney City Eagles at 6.00pm and Central Coast Hornets v Sydney Tornados at 8.00pm will be covered by Foxtel. Both games are the NSW

Netball Centre, Lidcombe and tickets are still available. Further information can be obtained by ringing: 9627 1610 or writing to PO Box 97, Riverstone, NSW 2765. The games are fast paced, fun-packed, loaded with skill and very exciting. Get along if you can, it's great family fun.

Please send your list of videos and news of 'Buy Four, Get One Free' UK-D/AB-W.

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# U.K. SOCCER

Detailed updates of all games direct from London  
with John Boughtwood from 6.30am

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## Dundee FC

BY STUART JONES

**Ground:** Dens Park Stadium  
**Address:** Sandeman Street, Dundee, DD3 7JY  
**Railway Station:** Dundee  
**Founded:** 1893  
**Admitted to League:** 1893  
**Ground Capacity:** 16,871  
**Seats:** 11,516  
**Pitch Size:** 110yd \* 70 yd.  
**Largest Gate:** 43,024 v Rangers Scottish Cup 1953  
**Biggest Win:** 10-0 v Alloa Div 29 March 1947 v Dunfermline Division 2 22 March 1947

**Heaviest Defeat:** 0-11 v Celtic Division 1 26 October 1895  
 1-11 v Ayr United League Cup 13 Aug 1952.  
**Nickname:** The Dark Blues or The Dee  
**Colours:** Dark Blue with some red and white trim  
**Honours:** League: Division One: 1961-62  
 First Division: 1978-79, 1991-92  
 Division Two: 1946-47  
 Scottish Cup: 1910  
 League Cup: 1951-52, 1952-53, 1973-74  
 B and Q Centenary Cup winners: 1990-91

History: In 1893 four clubs amalgamated to form Dundee. Craigie Park was chosen over Carolina Port as the home ground for the new side. However only a few months after their league debut the club moved to Carolina Port. In 1898 financial difficulties led to the club being reorganised. A few months later they moved to Dens Road. On August 19, 1899 the team made their debut at the new ground. Next door was Cleington Park home of the Wanderers. In 1921 Dens Park completely outstaged Tannadice with 60,000 pounds worth of development done. In 1959 two transfers meant the club could afford floodlights which were first switched on for a game against Liverpool. A year later, under Bob Shankly (Bill's brother) they were champions. In the late 1970s and through the 1980s the club saw Dens Park capacity fall by half — from 45,000 to 22,381.

After some success in the early 90's Dundee are back in the first division hoping to follow their neighbours back into the Premier League.

## LEADING SCORERS

### ENGLAND PREMIER

8 - Ian Wright (Arsenal)  
 6 - Fabrizio Ravanelli (Middlesbrough), Les Ferdinand (Newcastle), Alan Shearer (Newcastle)  
 5 - Efan Ekoku (Wimbledon)  
 4 - Patrik Berger (Liverpool), Matthew Le Tissier (Southampton), Ole Solksjaer (Manchester United), Andy

Booth (Sheffield Wednesday), Kevin Campbell (Nottingham Forest), Eric Cantona (Manchester United), Robbie Earle (Wimbledon), Juninho (Middlesbrough), Frank Leboeuf (Chelsea)

### SCOTLAND PREMIER

8 - Billy Dodds (Aberdeen)  
 7 - Pierre Van Hooydonk

(Celtic)  
 5 - Paul Gascoigne (Rangers)  
 4 - Jorge Cadete (Celtic), Dean Windass (Aberdeen), Ally McCoist (Rangers), Peter Van Vossen (Rangers), Gerrard Britton (Dunfermline), Andreas Thom (Celtic), Gary McSwegan (Dundee United)

★ ★ ★

## Weird and Wonderful

By STUART JONES

The Super League story has an impact on all sports in Australia. The question of who owns the clubs will arise in every sport eventually. In England the major clubs broke away to create the Premier League in football, and the Super League did likewise in Australian rugby league.

In Australia the media has become very biased — either for or against. From an outsiders perspective you can just about name the media groups who are pro and those against. There are many journalists running around big-noting themselves saying "I told you so," including some very famous soccer experts, when no one could have foreseen that outcome. Then again they also think they know about soccer...

Many pro super league supporters claim that overseas there is evidence that one certain group taking over the game has been for the betterment of that sport. Well has it? The English clubs moved to the Premier League for two reasons: 1. TV and 2. Money. The great dream of clubs doing a Wimbledon has almost disappeared. How can the likes of Barnsley ever sustain a period in the top flight?

The rich clubs get richer and richer while the others falter and move towards insolvency. Money runs the game - look at the transfers, and eventually the smaller clubs will just become nursery teams. The FA may deny it, but there are very high level talks going on to organise such a 'nursery' system between Chester City and Manchester City.

The Premier League has also affected football fans. Many have been priced out of supporting their teams. Other families are being driven financially broke as they buy the latest Man. Utd. kit for their sons or daughters. The true rugby league supporters will have the same thing happen I think. As well as this there is the social problem of poor priorities.

You cannot blame the PL or clubs for the next example but they are one part of the problem. I taught in South London near the Docklands and a couple of the eight year olds did not have shoes yet their parents had Sky TV to watch throughout the day and for the dads to watch football at night. The money men had pushed dad away from going down to Charlton to watch a team play for the dream of joining the elite.

Knowing it's fruitless, they'd rather just pay to watch the big teams on telly.

Why not pay exorbitant prices for the big clubs merchandise, as it's embarrassing to support their local team? While they starve away, the Pay TV owner or big club owners can buy another jet plane.

Unfortunately for many clubs the PL has been the ruination of them, but for the big, already rich clubs it has been magnificent. The rich clubs (and people) get richer and because they can buy off media time you hear them on TV saying how wonderful things are going, while the real supporters suffer. Oh well, I guess in the end they'll know they can't take their money with them.

Unfortunately our children will not see the once great game we saw, or dream the dream of the likes of Carlisle moving up to the Premier league.

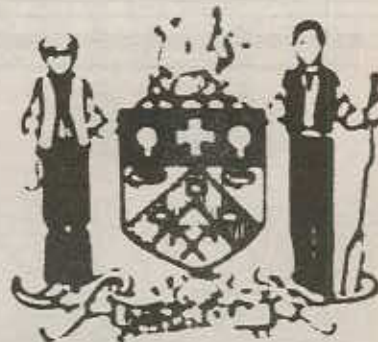
There was a time when players were not paid enough - the old maximum wage days. Those days were not good for the game but it is not good for the game either when footballers are being paid enough to keep a hospital running. The money will dry up eventually and those who are overspending now will collapse.

With Foxtel concentrating on Rugby League I wonder how long it will be before more and more soccer is seen on Optus Vision?

Already Vision have reportedly outbid their opposition for the next couple of England international games, how many more national football leagues will swap networks? What I'd like to see is a channel dedicated just to soccer. Of course the local game is well covered by Vision and with ESPN they have some of the best commentators in the world. Certainly Mike Hill has done considerably better than some of the 2KY colleagues he left behind. He is now one of ESPN's big commentators. It is interesting to note the amount of work that Andy Paschilidis does for Foxtel. He must get exhausted.

It must be said across all networks we are really lacking real soccer experts in this country, excluding Les and John on SBS. Commentators we have plenty of but looking for expert comments that are factually correct can be hard to find.

The good news for soccer is the positive publicity the game received from it's recent season launch. It was very polished and from all reports came across very positively on the main stream media. With League destroying itself, I hope Soccer Australia will avoid shooting itself in the foot and take advantage this summer. Next summer they will be up against new competition - basketball, but I detect that sport is starting to decline slightly in popularity. I hope soccer will fill the void of all sports lovers - and money won't ruin our great game in Australia. We do need professionalism but not 'Super League' style soccer. Best of luck in this years NSL to all the teams and go out and support your team whatever your background is.



# UNITED PTY LTD IN DEMAND

We have reported in recent months on the dramatic moves in England with clubs becoming much more than just Association Football playing organisations.

Manchester United sells merchandise that is shirts, shorts, socks, hats, flags, crockery, sweaters, jackets and much, much more. This is available from their own store either in person or by mail.

Manchester United is a major business even selling over \$50 million worth of merchandise a year. They have a plan which says, "Sell a Manchester United shirt to everyone in the World". That seems impossible but with shirts being traded in for new then the pre-owned ones can be sold to those less able to afford a new one.

Now a takeover bid has been launched of more than \$700 million! That's big money in anyones language.

An article from "The

Times" of London confirmed the details and part of that report follows. Note 'plc' is similar to 'Pty Limited'. Channel Four is a commercial TV broadcaster in the UK.

Martin Edwards chief executive of Manchester United plc and chairman of the football club, has already rejected overtures from Michael Grade of Channel Four television. Grade is the chairman of a video distribution company, VCI, which approached the Manchester United board with a takeover bid valuing the club at \$600 million.

That was rejected because Edwards did not feel there was enough depth to VCI's business plan for the football club and because the value of the company leapt when yearly profits of \$33 million were announced last week despite several adverse trading factors.

However, Edwards accepts that the VCI bid will be the first of many, with a scramble



among leading leisure and television companies to secure the most financially attractive sports club in Great Britain. Several business giants, including Granada and Whitbread, have expressed interest in buying the club.

Granada, one of the most powerful independent

television companies in Britain, is based in Manchester. Manchester United presents a massively attractive proposition for Granada because of a television revolution - pay per view - that will sweep Britain within the next three years. The company has developed

the technology, through its cable and satellite interests, to beam Manchester United matches into most homes in the country.

Manchester United has commissioned a recent report on the impact of pay per view, which found that the English premiership could command as much as \$6 billion in fees per year, with Manchester United apparently able to secure up to \$1 billion of that total figure.

Those figures are probably exaggerated, but expert analysis by London financiers suggests that a turnover figure of around \$500m should be attainable for Manchester United within the next three years, should it embrace pay per view. With Manchester United valued at \$570m on a turnover of \$106m, the potential for short-term growth is obvious.

Big television companies like Granada and Channel Four would also have the massive bonus of being able

to offer their viewers the chance to watch Manchester United. BSkyB has quickly become a profitable venture, using sport as the main attraction with football coverage as the jewel in the crown of its output.

Edwards is the largest shareholder at the club, with a 17 per cent stake, while the rest of the shares are held largely by financial institutions, thus making Manchester United a prime target for a takeover - if the offer valued the club at more than its present rating.

Manchester United could have a value close to \$2 billion in three years, when the television deal with BSkyB ends and it can introduce its own pay per view service. With a television company at the helm, such figures would be attainable, making its present valuation hugely attractive.

Edwards conceded on Thursday there would be more bids after the failure of VCI to

secure a takeover - and he indicated that he would be ready to do business if the price was right.

"Any successful company is an attractive takeover prospect," he said. "What I can say is that it's not something that we've sought and it's not something that we are particularly looking for."

Manchester United is already discussing plans for its own television station and it seems a natural progression towards a joint-venture into pay per view, with the television company taking a controlling stake in the club. Other businesses, however, will make the takeover battle a heated one.

Pay per view is the way forward for football and big media players in Europe are anxious to get into it. If Manchester United is ultimately acquired by an English television company, then it could pave the way for a European Super League.



# UK STORIES

## MAGICAL SHEARER SENDS NEWCASTLE TOP

Alan Shearer, England saviour in midweek, became Newcastle hero by firing his home town club to the top of the premier league.

Shearer, the world's most expensive footballer, scored a 76th minute winner as Newcastle won 1-0 at Derby to go one point clear of Arsenal.

The goal completed an outstanding four days for England captain Shearer, who led by example last Wednesday when he scored both goals as his team came from behind to beat Poland 2-1 in their

World Cup qualifier at Wembley.

Shearer, signed by Newcastle from Blackburn, struck his decisive goal at Derby in characteristically predatory style.

Newcastle defender John Beresford played in a free kick from the left which went all the way through, with Derby debutant centre-back Paul McGrath, perhaps anticipating a touch, allowing Shearer to drift off him.

It was all the room Shearer needed to smash a right-footed shot into the bottom corner of the net for Newcastle's sixth consecutive league victory.

Shearer's manager Kevin Keegan said, "Alan had what would have only been a half chance for other people. It was just a tremendous finish and showed just what he is all about."

While Newcastle were going top, their Colombian forward Faustino Asprilla was making a delayed return to the club from international duty.

The South American flew back from Bogota via Paris, with Keegan hinting he had accepted the player's explanation that he had simply missed the planned flight back that would have made him available for the Derby game.

Frenchman Arsene Wenger was given the perfect welcome as Arsenal manager when his new team beat struggling Blackburn 2-0 away to move into second place.

Wenger, watching his first game in charge of the London club following the dismissal of manager Bruce Rioch, saw Ian Wright score in the third and 51st minutes.

Arsenal are level on 20 points, and goal difference, with Liverpool but take second place by virtue of having scored one more goal.

Overnight leaders Liverpool, despite outplaying Manchester United for most of the match at Old Trafford, were beaten 1-0 and slipped to third.

England's new midfielder David Beckham scored the first-half winner for the defending champions.

Wimbledon, struggling off a wretched start to the season in which they lost their first three league matches, stayed fifth with a 4-2 home win over of Sheffield Wednesday.



David Beckham: Scored United's winner on Saturday morning.

They were indebted to Neil Sullivan as they chalked up their sixth consecutive top-flight win, a club record. The goalkeeper pulled off a fine save from David Hirst's 82nd-minute penalty to prevent Wednesday levelling at 3-3 after the Dons had led 3-1.

Chelsea's Italian imports Gianluca Vialli and Roberto Di Matteo put their adopted

club back on the winning trail after three matches without success.

The London side came from behind to win 3-1 at Leicester with second-half goals from Vialli and Di Matteo, and veteran Welsh marksman Mark Hughes.

## World Cup farce in Estonia

Estonia's Football Association was counting the cost last week of its farcical World Cup qualifier with Scotland while some newspapers suspected a dastardly plot to give the Scots an easy win.

The game was stopped yesterday after just three seconds as the Estonians failed to show up for the kick-off, brought forward to 3pm local time from 6.45pm after Scotland complained about the standard of floodlighting.

Estonian F.A. secretary-general Ainar Lettonon put the cost to Estonia at just under \$300,000 including some in lost television revenue and from ticket refunds, the cost of security and the extra floodlighting.

"We informed them (FIFA) about the size of the material damage and then we will wait

to see what they prefer to do," Lettonon told Reuters.

The saga began after Scottish coach Craig Brown said the floodlighting was the worst he had seen for an international fixture and requested FIFA, the game's ruling body, to start the match earlier.

FIFA initially backed the Estonians but after more arguing on Wednesday morning ruled in favour of the Scots.

Scotland lined up for the game at the new time but the Estonians, who said they heard of the final decision too late to get their team to the stadium, did not show up.

The referee blew the whistle to start the game but three seconds later halted it.

The match will probably be awarded to the Scots with a 3-0 win although FIFA will

decide finally on November 7.

Estonian newspapers suspected a plot to give the injury-hit Scots an easy win and avoid the disgrace of defeat against such a small country as Estonia.

"The Scottish football team had to play against Estonia without six of their best players. To lose to Estonia, especially when there were hundreds of Scottish fans there, is something that the Scottish coach would not have dreamed of," daily newspaper Postimees said in an editorial.

"Probably we will never know whether there was such an evil plot," it added.

Estonian coach Teitur Thordarson was also bitter.

"It was not fair play, it was a nasty way to get a result," he told newspaper Sonumileht.

## CELTIC WIN WHILE GERS LOSE

Scottish premier division Champions Glasgow Rangers suffered a shock first league defeat of the season on Saturday when they crashed 2-1 to managerless Hibernian.

Scotland striker Darren Jackson and defender Graeme Donald hit goals in four second-half minutes for home side Hibernian to wipe out an opener from Jorg Albertz.

Goalkeeper Jim Leighton completed Hibernian's heroics by stopping a twice-taken 85th minute penalty kick from Brian Laudrup.

Laudrup's first effort had hit the bar but referee Stuart Dougal ordered a re-take with Andy Millen apparently having entered the penalty



area.

Rangers stay top on 21 points, two clear of second-placed Celtic, with Aberdeen third on 14 and Hibernian, whose manager Alex Miller has quit after almost a decade in charge, in fourth place on 13.

Former Celtic contract rebel Pierre Van Hooydonk was their match-winner in a

1-0 home success against Motherwell.

Celtic, down to 10 men and struggling to break down a resolute defence, had their blushes spared by Van Hooydonk with a goal in the third minute of stoppage time.

The Dutch international, who appeared to be on his way out of the Glasgow club last week after rows with manager Tommy Burns, rose to head in a Jackie McNamara cross.



## BROLIN THREATENS TO QUIT

Unsettled Swedish international Tomas Brolin has threatened to retire over a dispute with his English premier league club Leeds.

Brolin was signed from Parma in a \$9 million deal nearly a year ago, but has been on loan recently to FC Zurich.

New Leeds manager George Graham, beset by injuries, insisted that he must return from Zurich so that his fitness could be assessed.

Brolin initially refused to return but changed his mind when Leeds threatened to ask FIFA to impose a worldwide ban on him.

Leeds club solicitor Peter McCormack said: "His

parting words were that, unless we gave in, he would retire from football for ever."

Brolin's agent Lars Petersen met McCormack in his Leeds offices yesterday to discuss the player's situation.

McCormack said: "Tomas feels he's better off in Switzerland with Zurich for another two months."

Then, in December, if he feels right, he would contemplate coming back to join Leeds.

"We made our position clear, which was that his loan agreement with Zurich finished over a week ago and he had a legal obligation to be in this country."



Tomas Brolin: Wants to stay in Switzerland and not return to Elland Road.

## PLAYER PUNISHED FOR PUSHING REFEREE

Birmingham City defender GARY POOLE has been suspended for four games and fined \$A1900 for pushing a referee in the back to

protest against a penalty decision.

Poole, who has already served two matches of the ban, pushed referee Richard Poulain from behind after the

official had awarded Manchester City a penalty against Birmingham at Maine Road on September 21.

After Poole had been expelled, home forward

Georgi Kinkladze scored from the spot for the only goal of the game.

☆☆☆

## SEND OFF DISMISSED

Referee Paul Danson has admitted he was wrong to send off Sunderland's Paul Stewart against Arsenal at Highbury and the striker will now escape a one match suspension.

Danson, who had already sent off Sunderland defender Martin Scott for two bookable fouls in the same game, agreed to review the evidence of Stewart's dismissal at a weekend referees' seminar with the Football Association and the League Managers' Association.

Stewart, who had already been booked for hand ball, repeated the offence, but claimed he was fouled in doing so by Arsenal's Steve Bould.

Now Danson has told the FA: "It was a genuine misinterpretation on my part."

Sunderland, whose manager Peter Reid was also dismissed in the same 2-0 defeat by Arsenal for arguing with Danson about Scott's dismissal, has already been charged by the FA with bringing the game into disrepute.

## Motherwell on market

Scottish premier division club Motherwell chairman John Chapman confirmed last week he is ready to sell the club within 12 months if a buyer can be found.

The Fir Park club has learned that the chairman wishes to sell his 52 per cent majority shareholding.

"I am 64 and retiring from the family business," said Chapman, a butcher by occupation.

"I feel it is now time for me also to step back from my footballing commitments."

"It is unfortunate that this comes at a time when Hibernian want Motherwell's manager Alex McLeish as their new manager but it has nothing to do with that."

Motherwell refused Hibernian permission yesterday to approach McLeish about the Easter Road job left vacant when Alex Miller quit on Monday of last week.





# ERICSSON CUP MATCHES

## THIS WEEK

### ROUND 2

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

BRISBANE STRIKERS

V

TOPPER BREAKERS

SUNCORP STADIUM - 7.00PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

MARCONI FAIRFIELD

V

COLLINGWOOD WARRIORS

MARCONI STADIUM - 7.00PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

SOUTH MELBOURNE

V

SYDNEY UNITED

BOB JANE STADIUM - 6.00PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

V

GIPPSLAND FALCONS

KNIGHTS PARK - 6.00PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

UTS OLYMPIC

V

CANBERRA COSMOS

BELMORE SPORTS GROUND - 6.30PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

WEST ADELAIDE

V

PERTH GLORY

HINDMARSH STADIUM - 7.30PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

WOLLONGONG CITY

V

ADELAIDE CITY

BRANDON PARK - 6.00PM